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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1952.

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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Startling Events

EVENTS at the Communist peace congress in Vienna have taken a totally unexpected and quite refreshing turn. The professional propagandists and "yes men" whose constant theme is that everybody but the Russians and their satellites are war-mongers, have had to give place to critical pacifists, who have had the courage to condemn the Soviet rejection of the Indian truce plan for Korea. Cannon Harmon, for example, forthrightly asked delegates whether the Vienna Congress could not urge certain concessions on the crucial issue of a Korean truce in order to bring the war to an end. Another pacifist—this time a Belgian—found sufficient temerity to criticise the recent Czechoslovakian treason trials, and the even greater nerve to ask the Soviet delegation point-blank whether his country would recognise the right of pacifists in Russia not to take up arms. Yet another delegate, from Switzerland, berated a Soviet representative for a speech accusing the United States of interfering in the affairs of other people.

THESE are interesting and not insignificant deviations from the approved and hitherto inevitable propaganda lines adopted at Communist-organised "peace" conferences. As surely the pacifists from England, Belgium and Switzerland will be branded by the Reds as "tools of the imperialists" and every attempt will be made by the Communists to discredit them and their "reactionary thoughts". Nevertheless, they cannot easily explain away the fact that they have amongst their supporters still possessing critical faculties, and with sufficient conviction to make use of them even on such taboo subjects as the Russian attitude to a Korean truce; the continued existence of the Iron Curtain; the purge trials in Czechoslovakia; and Soviet interference in the domestic affairs of other nations. The deviationism displayed at the Vienna Congress must not be allowed to lead to wishful thinking, but it is a development which the most fanatical Communists cannot ignore, and it may well have widespread repercussions in the Soviet-dominated countries.

Ill-Treatment Of Christmas Carols

Red POWs Denied

STATEMENT BY GEN. CLARK

London, Dec. 19. The United Nations Commander in Korea, General Mark Clark, has denied charges of withholding food and water from Communist prisoners in Korea and of using concussion grenades against hospital patients. Details of General Clark's statement were given to the House of Commons today by the Foreign Under-Secretary, Mr. Anthony Nutting.

Mr. Nutting said a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross alleged last April that, contrary to the Geneva Convention of 1949 on the treatment of prisoners, food and water had been withheld from prisoners in three hospital compounds on Kojima Island, and that concussion grenades had been used against patients in the same compound.

ENTOMBED MINERS RESCUED

Johnnesburg, Dec. 19. Forty-eight hours after a fall of rock entombed 19 African miners 4,500 feet below the surface at Nopre mines, the last 10 were brought out alive today. A European miner and two Africans were killed.

Fernando Satane, one of the rescuers, told a dramatic story of how all 19 were saved. "There was a loud crack and the air was filled with dust that nearly choked us," he said. "The tunnel behind us was blocked for 300 to 400 feet. The four rescuers at us began to clear a path through the fallen rock, using only our hands. At 2 p.m. yesterday our lamps failed, but we continued in complete darkness. "After 23 hours we tugged at a rock and went through into the fresh air, meeting the surprised rescuers who were working from the other end. All night the rescuers worked to clear the rocks to get to the injured."—Associated Press.

General Clark's reply said the three compounds were "controlled by fanatic Communist leaders" and had resisted every attempt to restore law and order. There were many patients in the compounds but the Communist leaders had refused entry to United Nations medical personnel.

"After every other attempt to regain control had failed," the United Nations Commander prepared a new compound in the immediate vicinity," General Clark said.

NEVER WITHHELD Food and water were made available in the new compound and prisoners were told that rations would no longer be delivered to the compounds they then occupied.

General Clark, Mr. Nutting said, denied that food, water or medical services were ever withheld from the prisoners. Concussion grenades were used when United States troops entered the first of the three compounds. General Clark said: "Against the strong and concerted resistance of aggressive prisoners armed with a variety of lethal weapons, which they had fashioned in preparation for, and actually used in, overt action, the United States troops used only tear gas and concussion grenades."

A concussion grenade "is a shock weapon of a non-fragmentation type and is not considered a combat missile," General Clark said. The Red Cross delegates on the scene commented "very favourably on the skill and self-control exercised by the United States troops."—Reuter.



The atmosphere of Christmas is captured in this picture of boys of the Chester Cathedral Choir rehearsing their carols in the cloisters in readiness for the Christmas Season.—London Express.

Terms Of Note To Bey Of Tunis Agreed Upon

Paris, Dec. 19. French ministers agreed tonight on the terms of a note to the Bey of Tunis asking him to sign without delay part of the French reform proposals for the Tunisian Protectorate.

The Secretary of State, M. Maurice Schumann, announced agreement on the text of the note after the ministers' second meeting today on the Tunisian problem.

The note will be sent by messenger with all possible speed, M. Schumann told a press conference.

The Ministers at their second meeting today devoted to Tunisia agreed that the note was of a nature to require an immediate answer but M. Schumann, after the meeting, did not confirm whether a time limit was expressly called for in the note.

He said it was not known who would take the note, about five or six pages long, to the Bey. Even if the French Resident General, Count Jean de Hauteclocque, is in Tunis when the note is handed over, he will not necessarily be the one to hand over the note, he said.

DECISION REMAINS M. Schumann said today's talks had in no way altered yesterday's government decision to work out a series of measures for Tunisia, depending on the Bey's reply to the government note. A statement after yesterday's meeting said that such measures had been worked out in detail.

British Interests Cannot Be Flouted

STRONG DECLARATION IN OIL DISPUTE CLAIM

Aden, Dec. 19. Judge Ralph Campbell today reserved judgment until January 9 in the latest case on the disputed Persian oil carried by the tanker Rose Mary. He did so after the final speech by Sir Hartley Shawcross, appearing for the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, who claim ownership of the oil carried by the tanker.

Sir Hartley Shawcross, who was Attorney-General under the former British Labour Government, said in his closing speech:

"It is high time that it should be firmly asserted once again that British interests are not to be flouted, and that British subjects are not to be pushed around in a breach of international law by foreign states, which think it good to disregard solemn undertakings they have previously given."

He stressed the importance of the case, not only to British interests, but "to the rule of law in the world at large."

He said he wanted to emphasize, in view of statements made during the hearings, that Persia's oil nationalisation law was wholly contrary to the United Nations view of international law.

Sir Hartley cited a note that Mr. Cortell Hull, then United States Secretary of State, sent to Mexico when the nationalised her oil industry in 1938.

This note, he stated, said it was a "universally accepted principle of international law that no government could take the property of foreign citizens by its own legislation without prompt and adequate compensation."

PLEA DENIED

Sir Hartley Shawcross denied the plea advanced by the tanker's owners that the Aden court had no jurisdiction in the case. The Panamanian company's counsel, Mr. M. H. Mansoor, questioned the court's jurisdiction because, he said, the tanker had been forced into Aden by the Royal Air Force.

"If this court has no jurisdiction in the matter," Sir Hartley asked, "where can an action be brought?"

Dealing with a defence suggestion that Anglo-Iranian Oil Company should have sought to protect its interests in the Persian courts, he said: "It is unrealistic to say that AIOC should sue in a country from which British subjects have been expelled, which refused to recognise international law, and whose courts are bound to carry out sovereign decrees, whether or not they are valid under international law."

Sir Hartley said the Rose Mary "was carrying stolen property." The owners, Compania de Navegacion Tercera de Panama City, "did not want to carry that stolen property to Italy, but that was precisely what the charterers (Buenberg) wanted."

Of Count Zohar, who acted throughout on behalf of the charterers, Sir Hartley said: "I do not suggest for one moment that he did anything fraudulent or criminal. What I do say is that he did not act in good faith."—Reuter.

Separated Twins Still Critical

Chicago, Dec. 19. The "Brother" Blamess twins, their heads separated in an unprecedented operation, began their third day of life as separate entities today still in a critical condition. "There has been very little change in the condition of Roger, Leo and Rodney Dean Blamess since yesterday afternoon," a bulletin issued by the University of Illinois stated. "The condition of Roger remains very precarious. He has not retained consciousness and is being fed intravenously. "Rodney is doing better than his brother. Nevertheless, his condition still is termed 'critical.'"—Associated Press.

Fishermen Provide A Puzzle

Singapore, Dec. 19. Eighteen fishermen, who have been stranded here for 36 days since the fishing vessel, Kunyee, drifted into port with engine trouble from the China Sea, are causing an international puzzle.

The group, consisting of four Chinese, five Japanese and nine Okinawans, were unable to tell the authorities who is the owner of the vessel and where he can be contacted. The Japanese said he was in Japan but the Japanese Consul tried vainly to make contact.

The Chinese said he was in Malaysia, as the immigration authorities wrote the Hongkong authorities for help. The Okinawans said the owner was in Okinawa, so the American Consul tried to get in touch with him, but all efforts, however, brought no result.

The 18 fishermen do not even know which country they belong to. The Chinese cannot decide whether they are subjects of Communist China or Hongkong; the Okinawans do not know whether they are under the Japanese jurisdiction or American; and the Japanese have a "apparently been living on fishing vessels all their lives. It is costing the government here \$27 daily to feed them."—United Press.

Commons Adjourns

London, Dec. 19. The House of Commons adjourned today for the Christmas holidays. It resumes on January 20. —Reuter.

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Your Radio Listening For Next Week In Detail—A "China Mail" Feature

Hongkong Voices On BBC's Christmas Day Broadcast

The BBC's Round-the-World Hook-Up on December 25 is now one of the most celebrated of all Christmas broadcasts, listened to by scores of millions of people the world over. This year the programme is called "The Queen's Inheritance" and will be of especial interest to listeners in Hongkong because they will be able to hear a contribution from the Colony.

The emphasis of the programme will be on the "youth, vitality and forward-looking courage among the Commonwealth peoples". It is therefore fitting that Hongkong's contribution should come from a Christmas party at the Shaukiwan Youth Club where poor Chinese children sing carols in Chinese — to the traditional tunes.

Dorothy Lee, the Government's Principal Youth Welfare Officer, broadcasts the Colony's message to the Commonwealth and the world. "The Queen's Inheritance" comes at 10 o'clock on Christmas night. The programme is followed immediately by the Christmas Message broadcast by Her Majesty the Queen — the first of her reign — at 11 p.m.

A brief summary of other programmes in Christmas week: At nine o'clock on Monday there's a broadcast version of Wynyard Browne's Christmas play "The Holly and the Ivy", adapted for radio by Donald Brooks who produces it for the Hongkong Stage Club.

On Tuesday at 7.15 listeners can hear the Cathedral Choir sing carols at Government House, and later the same evening at 9.15 there's a recording of the Annual Carol Concert from the University of Hongkong.

"Christmas Mall" on Tuesday at 8.45 p.m. is the first of a new series of features called "In Your Service" on the work and life of the people of Hongkong. The first programme deals with the work of the G.P.O. and is written and produced by Donald Brooks.

On Wednesday, Christmas Eve, at 8 o'clock the station is broadcasting a BBC version — of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" with Alec Guinness as Scrooge.

At 9.30 there is a recording from King's College Chapel, Cambridge, of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

A Christmas talk by the Archbishop of Canterbury is relayed from London at 11.15 p.m., and is followed by a Carol Service from the Roman Catholic Cathedral at 11.30.

At midnight on Christmas Eve, Radio Hongkong is relaying the Celebration of Pontifical High Mass from the Catholic Cathedral, remaining on the air till 1.00 a.m. Christmas morning.

On Christmas Day — Day — the Morning Service at 11 a.m. comes from St John's Cathedral and the preacher is the Rev. R.O. Hall, Bishop of Hongkong.

At 8 o'clock on Christmas Night and Boxing Night there's "Family Favourites from the Forces" — a special edition of "Forces Favourites" with tunes introduced by recorded messages from men in the Forces serving overseas, including some from Hongkong.

On Boxing Day at 6.15 comes "Aladdin", one of the old traditional pantomimes.

(Broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles per second and on 952 megacycles per second in the 31 metre band).

Today

12.30 p.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
1.30 NEWS.
1.45 WEATHER REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
2.00 HONGKONG AND THE WORLD.
2.15 FORCES PROGRAMME.
2.30 THE ADVENTURE OF P.C. 49.
2.45 BY ALAN STRAIN.
2.55 THE CASE OF THE THIRD SINGLE.
3.00 STUDIO: FORCES CHOICE.
3.15 PRESENTED BY ANN GREEN.
3.30 STUDIO: HOSPITAL REQUESTS.
3.45 PRESENTED BY HELEN.
4.00 STUDIO: MUSIC IN THE MODERN MANNER.
4.15 PRESENTED BY LEN READING.
4.30 ORCHESTRA: FATH AND HIS ORCHESTRA.
4.45 Somewhere along the way — with Tony Bennett (Vocal); Delicate — with Stan Freeman (Harpsichord); Why — with Tony Bennett (Vocal); Festival — with choruses (Vocal); Elton John — with the "Champion" Quartet.
4.55 THE WEST WITH GENE ARNOLD.
5.00 And Supper and carols and Orchestral, conducted by Carl J. Cotner; Mississippi Valley Blues — Gene Arndt (Vocal); assisted by Bert Dodson and Cass County Boys.
5.10 A CONCERT BY THE BAND OF THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, CONDUCTED BY MAJOR MEREDITH ROBERTS.
5.30 NEWS OF BRITAIN.
5.45 PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
5.55 STUDIO: UNIT REQUESTS.
6.00 PRESENTED BY ANN GREEN.
6.15 CALLING: 175 Locating Battery RA.
6.30 TIME SIGNAL: WORLD NEWS AND NEWS TALK (LONDON RELAY).
6.45 COTILLON-BALLET MUSIC.
6.55 CHARLES KINGSLEY.
7.00 FORCES FAVOURITES (LONDON RELAY).
7.15 WEATHER REPORT.
7.30 VARIETY: HANDS UP.
7.45 TALK: QUESTIONS.
7.55 RECORDING: L.O.M.D.O.W.
8.00 LOCAL SPORTS RESULTS.
8.15 RADIO STUDIO MELODIES.

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6.15 CALLING: 175 Locating Battery RA.
6.30 TIME SIGNAL: WORLD NEWS AND NEWS TALK (LONDON RELAY).
6.45 COTILLON-BALLET MUSIC.
6.55 CHARLES KINGSLEY.
7.00 FORCES FAVOURITES (LONDON RELAY).
7.15 WEATHER REPORT.
7.30 VARIETY: HANDS UP.
7.45 TALK: QUESTIONS.
7.55 RECORDING: L.O.M.D.O.W.
8.00 LOCAL SPORTS RESULTS.
8.15 RADIO STUDIO MELODIES.

12.30 p.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
1.30 NEWS.
1.45 WEATHER REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
2.00 HONGKONG AND THE WORLD.
2.15 FORCES PROGRAMME.
2.30 THE ADVENTURE OF P.C. 49.
2.45 BY ALAN STRAIN.
2.55 THE CASE OF THE THIRD SINGLE.
3.00 STUDIO: FORCES CHOICE.
3.15 PRESENTED BY ANN GREEN.
3.30 STUDIO: HOSPITAL REQUESTS.
3.45 PRESENTED BY HELEN.
4.00 STUDIO: MUSIC IN THE MODERN MANNER.
4.15 PRESENTED BY LEN READING.
4.30 ORCHESTRA: FATH AND HIS ORCHESTRA.
4.45 Somewhere along the way — with Tony Bennett (Vocal); Delicate — with Stan Freeman (Harpsichord); Why — with Tony Bennett (Vocal); Festival — with choruses (Vocal); Elton John — with the "Champion" Quartet.
4.55 THE WEST WITH GENE ARNOLD.
5.00 And Supper and carols and Orchestral, conducted by Carl J. Cotner; Mississippi Valley Blues — Gene Arndt (Vocal); assisted by Bert Dodson and Cass County Boys.
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8.00 LOCAL SPORTS RESULTS.
8.15 RADIO STUDIO MELODIES.

4.30 JANE FROMAN SINGS SELECTIONS FROM "WITH A LITTLE IN MY HEART". Opening Production and it's a good day. For two Blue Moon. Entertainers you got happy. Walk alone. They're either too young or too old. An American Melody. Song in my heart. With Chorus and Orchestral. Conducted by George Greeley.
5.00 STUDIO: HOME REQUESTS. Presented by Diana.
5.05 PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
5.10 ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL. South China. Kwong Wah from the Club Ground.
5.15 COMMENTARY BY Big Young (Recorded Only).
5.20 STUDIO: SERVICES EVENING. Conducted by the Rev. E. L. V. Bell.
7.00 THE SIGNAL: WORLD NEWS AND NEWS TALK (LONDON RELAY).
7.15 SONG FROM OPERA—FAMOUS DUETS. Evening Prayer (from "Hansel and Gretel" by Humperdinck). Elizabeth Schwarzkopf (Soprano) and Irina Gaidar (Soprano) with the Philharmonia Orchestra. (Puccini)—Poli and Ogi (Vocal). Love Duet (from "Madama Butterfly" by Puccini). Maria Lanza (Soprano) and Elaine Mahlin (Soprano).
7.30 THE LUCK OF THE VALE. 7.35 WEATHER REPORT.
8.00 STRING ENSEMBLE. Conducted by the Rev. E. L. V. Bell.
8.05 PHRASE AND PREJUDICE. Episode 8: "Mr Darcy is Painfully Surprised".
8.55 LOCAL SPORTS RESULTS. 9.00 P.M. PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
9.05 THE SILKEN LADDER—Overture (Hoskins)—Sir Thomas Beecham and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Concerto in A Major for Piano and Orchestra. 400 (Mozart)—National Symphony Orchestra. Conducted by David Neel. Christmas Concerts from "The Elbow Room" and "The Elbow Room". Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent. Air:

Monday

7.00 a.m. OPENING THEME. 7.05 LIGHT MUSIC. 7.10 NEWS SUMMARY. 7.15 TOP OF THE MORN. 8.00 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT. 8.10 MUSIC IN THE AIR. 9.00 CLOSE DOWN. 9.10 P.M. PROGRAMME SUMMARY. 9.15 NEWS. 9.20 NEWS SUMMARY. 9.25 TOP OF THE MORN. 10.00 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT. 10.10 MUSIC IN THE AIR. 10.20 NEWS SUMMARY. 10.25 TOP OF THE MORN. 11.00 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT. 11.10 MUSIC IN THE AIR. 11.20 NEWS SUMMARY. 11.25 TOP OF THE MORN. 12.00 CLOSE DOWN. 12.05 PROGRAMME SUMMARY. 12.10 NEWS. 12.15 NEWS SUMMARY. 12.20 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT. 12.30 MUSIC IN THE AIR. 12.40 NEWS SUMMARY. 12.45 TOP OF THE MORN. 1.00 CLOSE DOWN. 1.05 PROGRAMME SUMMARY. 1.10 NEWS. 1.15 NEWS SUMMARY. 1.20 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT. 1.30 MUSIC IN THE AIR. 1.40 NEWS SUMMARY. 1.45 TOP OF THE MORN. 2.00 CLOSE DOWN. 2.05 PROGRAMME SUMMARY. 2.10 NEWS. 2.15 NEWS SUMMARY. 2.20 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT. 2.30 MUSIC IN THE AIR. 2.40 NEWS SUMMARY. 2.45 TOP OF THE MORN. 3.00 CLOSE DOWN. 3.05 PROGRAMME SUMMARY. 3.10 NEWS. 3.15 NEWS SUMMARY. 3.20 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT. 3.30 MUSIC IN THE AIR. 3.40 NEWS SUMMARY. 3.45 TOP OF THE MORN. 4.00 CLOSE DOWN. 4.05 PROGRAMME SUMMARY. 4.10 NEWS. 4.15 NEWS 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KING'S
Columbia Films Presents
"A VARIETY PROGRAMME"
3 STOOGES COMEDY — COLOR CARTOONS
AT REDUCED PRICES

KING'S MAJESTIC EMPIRE

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M. AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M. AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
EXTRA PERFORMANCE TO-MORROW
EMPIRE at 12.30 p.m. MAJESTIC at 12 Noon
Paramount presents **"THE GOLDEN HAWK"**
ALL TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS

THAT RASH, BRASH
BEST-SELLERS HERE
in color by
TECHNICOLOR
Golden Hawk
RITA FLEMING STERLING HAYDEN
Produced by SIDNEY SALKOW - A COLUMBIA PICTURE

EMPIRE THEATRE
For the convenience of our patrons we have arranged for a temporary town booking at International Films Ltd., 107, Holland House, 1st floor.
Telephone No. 21852 from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

PRINCESS
★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



IF YOU WERE PAULA, WOULD YOU HAVE STOPPED?

The two love stories of the woman
LORETTA YOUNG
PAULA
JOHN SMITH - ALEXANDER FRANK - Screen Play by FRANK FRY and WILLIAM BENDIS - Produced by FRANK FRY - Directed by WILLIAM BENDIS

TO-MORROW MORNING SHOW AT 11.30 A.M.
VARIETY PROGRAMME OF WALT DISNEY'S FULL TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS
Bring the kids for a pre-X'mas treat
PRICES: STALLS 91.00, LOGS & CIRCLE \$1.50

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis
GEE I DID ALL RIGHT TONIGHT. LOOK AT ALL THIS STUFF!
THESE PAPERS ARE A RIOT. WHAT IS THE HEADLESS THIEF? POLICE REFUSE COMMENT. JOE, WE'RE DRIVING 'EM CRAZY.
YEAH, THIS WAS A SMART IDEA. SCARES PEOPLE STIFF WHEN THEY SEE US. BUT WHAT IF WE GET CAUGHT?
THAT'S A LAUGH, WHO COULD IDENTIFY A MAN WITH NO HEAD? WE'RE SAFE AS LONG AS WE'RE CAREFUL.
TOMORROW - MAYBE

In The Stars' Fan Mail
NOT BILLETS-DOUX BUT GIMME-DOS
A star's fan mail may be a barometer of his popularity but any film celebrity's secretary will tell you that all of those letters aren't from fans.

The more successful the star, the more certain it is that many of those letters will not be billets-doux but gimme-dos. They range anywhere from a plea for an evening gown that a star wore in her last picture to a cheque for enough money to send a boy through college.

Because of the gentleness and warmth of her personality, Ann Blyth slathers through a constant avalanche of requests.

She received a letter from a woman who wanted Ann to help finance a South American tour for herself and eighteen-year-old daughter for the simple reason that the girl's chances for a well-to-do marriage would be at their best during such a trip!

She wrote: "Motion picture stars such as yourself can marry any man you want, but in the small town in which we live, my daughter has few chances to meet eligible young men."

While she was making Wald-Krasna's "Clash By Night," Barbara Stanwyck recalled a request from a young lady who was about to be married, for the wedding dress Barbara had worn in one of her films. The young lady said she was about Miss Stanwyck's size, so she was sure the gown would fit, but she stated that she didn't particularly care for the wealth dress Barbara had worn with it, and wondered if it she would send a pearl cap with it instead.

- 21. S. TAP ROOTS
- 22. M. Call the Miller
- 23. T. Captain Horatio Hornblower
- 24. W. Steamboat
- 25. T. — do —
- 26. F. — do —
- 27. S. The Seventh Veil

CAPITOL
★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

A desperate burning in her heart... she MUST LOVE AGAIN!
Hunt Stromberg presents
JANE LOUIS RUSSELL HAYWARD
THE NAUGHTY WIDOW
SUNDAY MORNING SHOW AT 12.00 NOON
Warner Bros. Presents
TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS
At Reduced Prices!

COMING SOON **KING'S MAJESTIC** COMING SOON
Love captive
of the savage wolves of the sea!
BLACKBEARD THE PIRATE
TECHNICOLOR
ROBERT NEWTON
LINDA DARNELL WILLIAM BENDIS
in KENNETH CRANFORD's production

ROXY & BROADWAY
SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Thrill-filled with bare intrigues... magic love!
Thief of Damascus
Technicolor
PAUL HENREID
with JOHN BUTTON - JEFF CORRELL - LOU CHANEY - ELENA VERDE - Screen Play by ROBERT L. KENT - Produced by SAM KATZMAN - Directed by WALL HALL

ROXY: To-morrow Morning Show At 11.30 a.m. "SAZAA" A Mightiest Indian Picture

BROADWAY: To-morrow 5 Shows "THIEF OF DAMASCUS" Extra Performance at 12.30 p.m.

ROXY To-morrow Morning Show At 11.30 a.m.
"SAZAA"

Most heart-rending romantic tragedy told in enchanting photography, dramatic action and excellent musical background! Be sure not to miss this best Indian picture of 1951!
Starring
Nimmi
Dev Anand
Shyama
& others
Released by
GIAN SINGH & CO. LTD., HONGKONG
BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

EMPIRE THEATRE
KING'S ROAD • TELEPHONE 70103
OPENS MONDAY:
AN INTENSELY DRAMATIC AND POWERFUL LOVE STORY!
STARRING
BROADWAY'S GREAT STAGE STAR
RUTH HUSSEY

MEMORY OF LOVE
Sealed her lips!
THE DRAMATIC STORY OF
"I, Jane Doe"
RUTH HUSSEY
JOHN CARROLL
VERA RALSTON
with BEVE LUGNANI - JOSE EDWARD - BENAY VENUTA - as Adam Ward - James Bell - John Little

AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M. **QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA** AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★
Lana Turner
Gene Kelly
June Allyson
Van Heflin • Angela Lansbury
Frank Morgan • Vincent Price • Keenan Wynn
John Sutton • Gig Young

• SUNDAY MORNING SHOWS •
QUEEN'S At 11.30 a.m. Only The Outstanding Italian Film "Rome-Open City" With English Subtitles
ALHAMBRA At 11.30 a.m. Only Paramount's Variety Program
AT REDUCED PRICES

LEE Liberty
★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★
4 SHOWS AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
FUNNIER THAN "SAILOR BEWARE!"
DEAN JAGGER
MARTIN LEWIS
and WALLIS
Jumping Jacks
MONTY TRENNAN DONALD CRISP STANLEY CRISP

5 SHOWS TO-MORROW at
LEE THEATRE AT 12.00 NOON
LIBERTY AT 12.30 P.M.
JUMPING JACKS

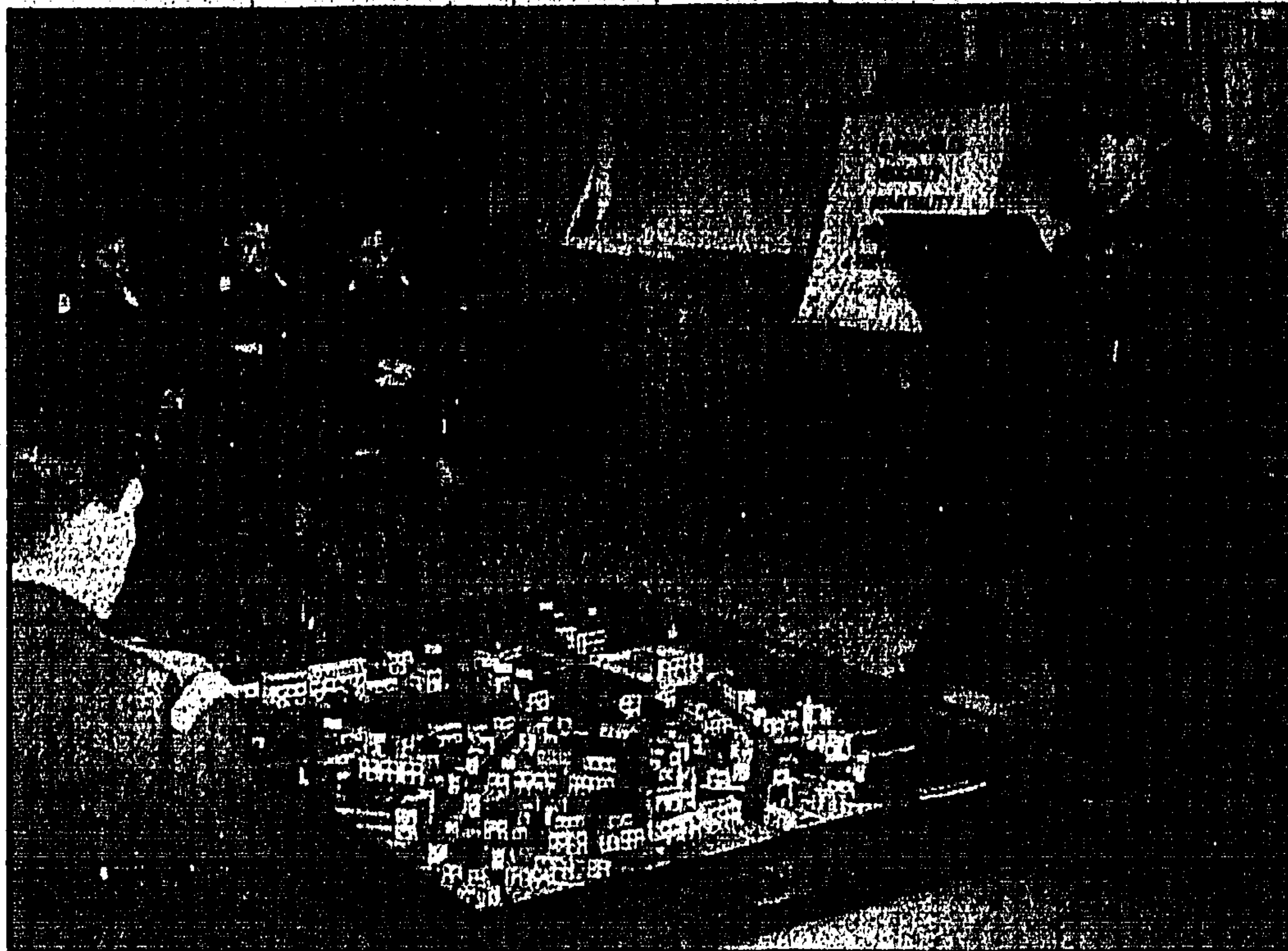
GREAT WORLD
NOW OPEN!
SHOWING TO-DAY
4 SHOWS AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

HELL-RIDERS OF THE HEAVENS
THUNDER
ACROSS THE PACIFIC
STORY OF THE B-29 SUPERFORTRESS
starring
VERA
COREY RALSTON
FOREST TUCKER - PHIL HARRIS
with WALTER BRENNAN - WILLIAM BENDIS
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

ADDED: Latest Gaumont-British News
BRITAIN'S CROWN JEWELS
UK's First Atomic Explosion
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HOMESIDE PICTORIAL



THE new Chief of the Imperial General Staff, General Sir John Harding, addressing a class of cadets in the model room of the Eaton Hall Officer Cadet School, Chester, during his first visit as CIGS to Western Command. (Army News)



PREPARING for Christmas. Pictures taken at the Hertram Mills circus training quarters at Ascot show, (left) Sabu, the baby elephant, rehearsing one of his tricks, and (right) Joan Fowles and Phyllis Allen doing their Spanish Haute Ecole riding act. (Central)



BRIDE at Kensington Register Office is Miss Pamela Gordon, 34-year-old only daughter of the late Gertrude Lawrence, the actress. She married Mr Robert Clatworthy, a sculptor. (Express)



FIELD MARSHAL Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Minister of Defence, opened the third general assembly of the World Veterans' Federation at Church House, Manchester. He is seen addressing the meeting. On his left is the President and founder of the Federation, M. Albert Morel. (Army News)



THE scene in the Royal Court of the Houses of Parliament when a piece of stone from the fabric of the Palace of Westminster was presented by H.M. Government to the Legislative Council of the Malayan Federation for incorporation into the Council building at Kuala Lumpur. (Express)

BELOW: Winter came early to the Cotswolds, where heavy snowfalls have been experienced. Here, Mr S. G. Smith, of Cockbury Butts, Gloucestershire, is seen taking fodder to his cattle in the snow-covered fields.



MR H. Goodman, of Hackney, who has been making bearskins for over 45 years, fitting a frame into one as he steps up his work in connection with the Coronation. The bearskins are worn by the Brigade of Guards.



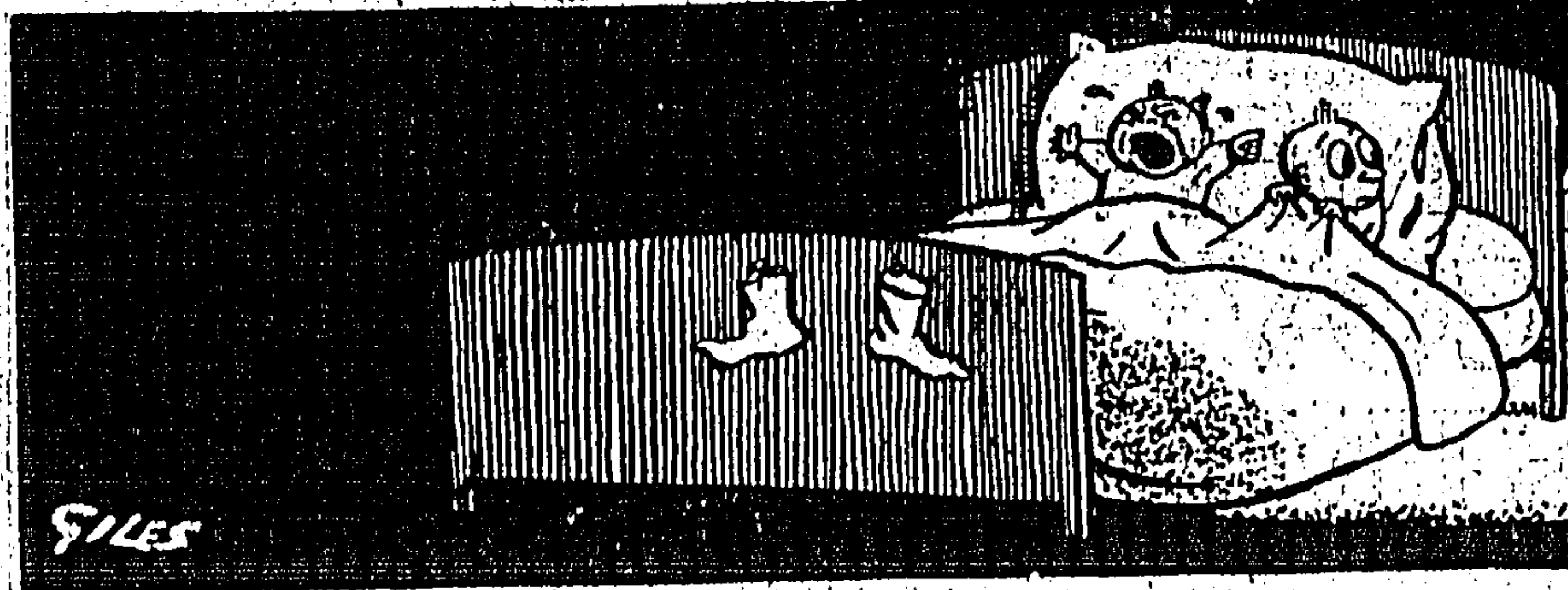
AT the Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall, the famous motorcycle racing champion, Geoffrey Duke, was presented with the Segrave Trophy for the "most outstanding demonstration of the possibilities of transport by land, air or water." Duke is showing the trophy to his wife. He announced he would be giving up motorcycle racing for car racing next season.

NANCY

On The Ball

By Ernie Bushmiller





London Express Service

JERUSALEM 1952 - THE ONE DAY WHEN THEY FORGET HATREDS

JUST for one day in the year, the high barbed wire that cuts the Holy City in two is pushed aside and Jew and Arab forget their hatred, and the two sectors of Jerusalem, modern and Jewish in the one side, ancient and Arab on the other, are joined.

The year round, Arab Legion guards, in their gay red and white checked head-dresses, and Israel soldiers, wearing British battledress,

By
MONICA DEHN

have stared sullenly at each other across the few yards of no man's land and kept a tensed finger on the trigger.

But from Christmas Eve until the end of Christmas Day, the barriers are pushed aside,

the rifles held a little absent-mindedly. For across the lines are streaming Christian worshippers from Israel on their annual pilgrimage to Bethlehem.

From mid-November onwards, Jerusalem's Jews and Arabs have worked closely together to make possible this brief demonstration of Christmas peace and goodwill.

The names of Christians eager to travel to Christ's birth-place along the winding road carved out of the hillside by Palestine Arabs during the Arab-Jewish war, are first scrutinised by the Israelis. Then they are passed to Jordan through the good offices of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission and finally returned to the Governor of modern Jerusalem, Dr. Abraham Biran, for a final check.

And at 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve, as the star which guided the three wise men begins to twinkle in the Eastern sky, the first group of pilgrims assembles outside the revolving doors of the luxurious King David Hotel.

They are all members of Jerusalem's Consular Corps, or of U.N. agencies working in Israel, and they line up formally in order of precedence. First comes the Dean of the Consular Corps in Jerusalem, the Greek Consul-General, followed by the British Consul-General, then the Holy City, Mr. H. R. D. Gibbon

Moneyperny, is the only diplomat stationed on the Arab side of the lines who crosses into Israel to join the pilgrimage.

All the members of the Consular Corps are in diplomatic dress. Their cocked hats glitter with braid, their silver swords gleam through the blackness of the cold Jerusalem midwinter night.

As the convoy moves off, the sweet notes of 'Come all ye faithful' peep from the bells in the tower of the pale pink stone YMCA opposite.

Ten minutes later the diplomats' sleek limousines draw up at the border, a stone's throw from the palatial home of Palestine's High Commissioners, now a U.N. Palestine headquarters. And by the light of roaring bonfires, Arab Legionnaires and Israelis together give the pilgrims their last check-over.

In chorus, Jew and Arab call out 'Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas' and give each other the one smile of the year. Then, with a flourish, they wave the pilgrims onwards towards the field of the shepherds and on to midnight Mass at the Stable site.

Next morning as the weary diplomats return, a second group of about 1,000 pilgrims sets out from Israel to Bethlehem. These include the priests and nuns who live in the quiet monas-

teries and convents of Nazareth and Tiberias and the Mount of the Transfiguration; orphan children in the care of religious orders; the elderly, maimed and weak of the Christian charitable institutions in Jerusalem. With them are the hundreds of Israel's Christian Arabs living in the villages of Galilee for whom Christmas is the one occasion on which they can meet members of their families on the other side.

But in 24 hours the make-believe peace comes abruptly to an end. The last straggler is pushed unceremoniously into Israel and the high barbed wire barriers are rolled back into place. Once again Arab Legion guards and Israel soldiers stare sullenly at each other across the few yards of no man's land.

RIGHT: A member of the Arab National Guard seeks information from a mounted shepherd outside St Stephen's Gate, looking towards the Mount of Olives in untroubled Palestine. Churches seen in the picture are the Russian Orthodox Church (in grove of trees) and lower, the Church of All Nations, reputed to be erected over the Garden of Gethsemane. In it is enshrined the rock on which Christ prayed on the night He was betrayed by Judas to the Roman soldiers.



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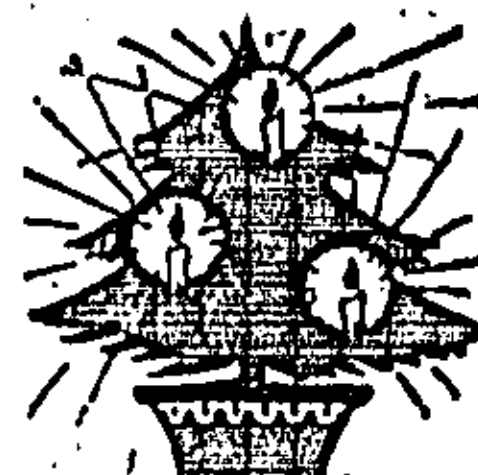
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SPACEMEN REDISCOVER CHRISTMAS

By
**NORMAN
MOSS**

ONCE again it was Christmas Eve on Earth and the space ships were tied on their astral moorings until the day after Boxing Day. Father had slipped off to meet a friend in the "Uranium Arms". Mother was adjusting the super-sonic cooker in the kitchen; grandfather was showing off some snapshots to his grandchildren.

"And these," he told the children peering through stereo-television, "are some friends of mine and myself on another Christmas Eve. It was a very important Christmas Eve—for it was the first Christmas on the new planet a long time ago—it was in the year 2152.

The snapshots showed the time-honoured scene. In the background was a glittering Christmas tree. Heaped underneath were loads of gaily-covered parcels. Beside it was a sleigh with a couple of reindeers harnessed to it. The ground was covered with snow—but that looked artificial.

The youngest of the family finally asked: "But grandpa, what were you all doing?"

Grandfather settled down into his seat, while the family gathered around him, and he said—though he couldn't remember how often he'd said it before—"Well, I'll tell you. At the

time, we were up on the planet. We had come out to the new planet, your grandmother and I, as pioneers to the first Colony. We left the Old Earth in the days of Big Brother and we never wanted to come back to it.

"On the new planet we were free—no television control, and no newspeak and no BBC—those were hard times—no super-sonic cookers, only an open radiator for your grandmother to cook on. But we prospered on the planet and for many years did not hear a word from Old Earth—not even a radio-echo.

"Then suddenly came great news across the ether. The Old Earth was looking up. Big Brother had been banished. His thought controllers had been exiled to satellites. Men on Earth were searching with Reverse-Time Detectors for ancient human customs. Probing about, backwards in time, they came across what seemed a happy scene on one day each year when millions of children laughed together.

"So they discovered 'Christmas' again. And the Interplanetary Society for Human Happiness despatched 'Christmas Comets' to all planetary colonies loaded with decorations, trees, instruction leaflets for making Christmas Pudding.

"We had just seen on the Cosmic Radar screen that a third Christmas Comet was coming in—the crackers, the turkey, and a box with the mysterious old long-forgotten names, 'Scotch' and 'Cognac,' had arrived.

"Then a shell-shaped guided space ship appeared in the sky above the planet.

"It's another cargo carrier from Earth," I said. "I'd better signal it in."

"Probably the tinsel," said grandmother. "The tinsel we need wouldn't fill a space ship," I said.

"Then maybe it's the Mischmas Tree."

"Christ-mas! We've got to learn the name correctly again!"

"Yes, Yes, you've said that before. I'll get it right next time," said grandmother.

"All right, now be quiet while I bring the ship in and we'll see what's in it," I said working at the controls.

"Mary, the little girl who lived next door, appeared. 'Can I

come in if I stay away from the control panel?' she asked.

"Why of course you can, darling," said Grandmother. "Do you want me to tell you about Mis—the big event?"

"Everybody's telling us about it in school now," retorted Mary.

"Do you know when people last celebrated Christmas?" asked grandmother, almost slipping into a schoolmistress's role.

"A hundred years ago," answered Mary proudly.

"And do you know what we do at Christmas?"

"Mary had just learnt it all. 'We all have good will,' she replied immediately. 'We all think about the One who was born in a manger.' We all give each other presents, and pretty little pictures called Christmas cards. We sing songs called carols. We are all of good cheer. Everybody—"

"That's right, dear, you've got the idea. Now do you know why we are bringing Christmas back?"

"Because of the revolution. To show that Big Brother's gone and we're human again. We did away with thought controllers. Then radio travel. Then newspeak. Then even television. Just as we brought back singing, and art, and sport, and lipstick. And now Christmas."

"Just then John came into the room. 'We've opened the cargo carrier,' he told me. 'A lot of Christmas stuff—but no snow. I suppose we'll have to do with our own home-made snow, even though we can't get it quite white. And they've sent the reindeer!'"

"Oh yes, Earth told me they were coming. What are they like to handle?"

"Well, they look like the things of the old Christmas cards, anyway."

"But why did that incredible man on Earth send them up here without de-germing them?"

"A note with the reindeer said he thought it might somehow spoil the Christmas spirit if he did."

"All I could answer was: 'Well, I suppose he meant to be kind. But I don't know—when I think of the amount of stupidity on Earth, I'm very glad indeed that I'm up here. Still, you've got to give them credit for trying.'"

"Why are they so stupid on Earth?" John asked me.

"So I told him. 'They're not really so stupid, just amateurs at some things. Living, for instance. Before the Revolution they were all conditioned to live in a certain way under the old Big Brother regime. They had to destroy that conditioning entirely. They were left with knowledge of some few things, and none at all, no experience, in others. Lost people with a lot of technical tricks, that's about all.'"

"We have been observing with some interest your preparations for the Christmas feast," said this Cupid-without-an-arrow. "Is it something new?"

"Yes, my friend, I don't know how much you understand of this. It is the spirit that counts, the Christmas spirit. Earth is bringing it back in a big way, and naturally we are joining in on this outpost."

"The spirit. And tell me," said the all-knowing creature, "will the outward forms make for the Christmas spirit?"

"Well, they help. We haven't much else to work on. There's nobody around who celebrated



A nice line in men's suitings in the year 2152—as suggested in the film, "Things To Come."

"That is why we seem so much more intelligent here. Living together does not require so much intelligence when there are only a few people."

"At this point thoughts began to buzz in my head, and I knew it was the indigenous inhabitants trying to materialise. In those days the original Planet Matwas, (a small timid people who lived a natural life-span of 850 years) had fled into the jungle of the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Dimensions. So they were invisibly all around us, the short-lived conquerors, and only materialised to shoot at us an inquisitive thought or a deep and difficult comment from their wise old brains."

"It felt as if a whole tribe were slipping down the ladder of the dimensions into my consciousness."

"Look, inhabitants," I said. "If you're going to communicate, I'm very tired. I've been working hard. Please, if you're going to communicate with me, materialise into something we recognise and talk."

"And, couldn't you materialise into something really pretty," grandmother asked, "and not something horrid as you usually do?" A little winged cherub appeared. "Thank you. That's better."

"We are never doing anything else."

"Two days later, on Christmas Eve, Grandmother stood trembling with excitement while I worked my way through the silver ribbon and red and green wrapping of a package that had come across from Earth. When I saw what was in it, I shouted in excitement. "It's a ticket! A ticket to Earth! A holiday there. Should we take it?"

"Yes, of course, we can go back there when we like. I know we'll go next year—for Christmas."

"Next year? Oh yes, said your grandmother reflectively. 'From now on there will be one every year. I never thought of that.'"

How to be happy at Christmas —or at any other time

THERE are a few days left in which we can wish each other a Happy Christmas. However black the clouds abroad and at home, and however painful the anxieties which gnaw at many minds, we shall greet each other as vigorously as ever.

Yet at this Christmas, more than ever before, we shall need to dig out our happiness from the little events of everyday life—if only to keep our gaze away from bigger things.

What do we know about happiness? It doesn't depend too much on surroundings. There can be more real happiness in the four-ale bar of the village local than in the brassy surroundings of the posh cocktail bar.

It isn't something that you can catch by chasing or by buying a ticket—indeed, some of the world's biggest "miseries"

spend much of their time chasing happiness.

A number of little streams contribute to the river of happiness. Among them is a little praise. Of course, we all know our worth, but it is nice to be reminded of it.

There are still people whose principle of bringing up children is to tell Molly to "Go and find out what Tommy is doing and tell him to stop it." Children need their appreciation no less than their calories.

There is the happiness of the unexpected gift. The man who gives his wife the money, or takes her with him to buy the present, is cutting the happiness of receiving it in half. Trite but true.

There's the happiness—mixed with shame—of being remembered by someone whom you have completely forgotten.

I suppose it's a sign of middle-age to praise the past,

but the parties of 40 years ago were parties. We all did our stuff. The pianist was dragged unwillingly to the piano, though, between ourselves, he had brought with him a case full of music.

There were the recitations that applauded virtue and condemned vice. There was Auntie's laugh, which needed but the occasional aid of a bottle of stout to peel at someone's slightest quip. There were consequences, winking, and father's only—and often unsuccessful—conjuring trick, to say nothing of charades with bearded females and unusually rounded men. Those were the days!

Doing something is the secret of much of our happiness, though I suppose it would be too old-fashioned—but quite true—to praise work for its own sake as a source of satisfaction.

One of the problems of our day, now that work is tending to be written off as a kind of

painful servitude, is to learn how to deal with our increased leisure. We are pressing for more and more leisure before we have learnt how to deal with it.

Is security necessary for happiness? Of course, it helps, though it may bring its own troubles in its train.

One source of happiness that we are diffident about mentioning except in our wills is happiness in marriage. A cynical Restoration poet declared that courtship is to marriage what a witty prologue is to a dull play. Let's risk being associated with aspidochelons and the charge that we are old-fashioned, and bluntly say that in the humdrum of matrimony there is deeper satisfaction than in all the glittering externals of this so-called civilised life of ours.

Yes, Christmas is the festival of the Child, the children, the family—and all those so-called "things of life" which add up to genuine happiness.

A Happy Christmas!

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THE NINE CAROLS AND THE NINE LESSONS

IT was a quarter of a century ago that the BBC first broadcast to the outside world the service of the Nine Carols and Nine Lessons at Christmas. It was transmitted from the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, which was founded by King Henry VI, also the founder of Eton College. In the course of twenty-five years the annual broadcast has become an essential

feature of the Christmas Festival.

The service consists of the reading of nine lessons from Holy Scripture, interspersed with the singing of nine carols, the whole designed to symbolise the Redemption of Man through Jesus Christ. The origins of the service date back to mediaeval times, although how it came to be associated with the Feast of the Nativity remains obscure. In England the service was little known until 1877 when Dr Edward White Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, was made first Bishop

of Truro in Cornwall. It was largely through his personality and generous local charity that the new cathedral was built, and to signalise its creation, Dr Benson revived the Festival of the Nine Lessons. Its association with King's College, Cambridge, dates from just after the First World War when Dr Milner White, who is now at York, was Dean of the College.

He instituted a new form of service, now famous all over the world, in which the various lessons are read by the Provost, the Vice-Provost, one of the fellows, a choral

scholar, an old Etonian, and a choirboy.

The presence of an old Etonian recalls the long association of King's College and Eton. The service is essentially a collegiate ceremony, but to give it greater universality the Mayor of the City of Cambridge and his Chaplain are also invited to read two of the lessons.

The dedication is directed first to the royal foundation of King's and Eton by Henry VI, then to goodwill between the University and the lay community of Cambridge, and thirdly to peace among men.

The service takes the place of Evensong on Christmas Eve and access to the famous chapel, one of the most beautiful in existence, is open to all, which the Provost, the Fellows, the choral scholars and choirboys sit in their stalls in surplices and academic hoods. The choir intone the carols to the accompaniment of the organ installed above the screen by Renatus Harris in the latter part of the 17th century.

The broadcast is now so popular that the congregation fills the huge chapel, and many people travel hundreds of miles to be present.

Christmas at Sandringham



By NORMAN HILLSON

THERE has been a royal family party at Sandringham ever since King Edward VII built the "Big House" for his beautiful Danish bride, Queen Alexandra. That was nearly ninety years ago and the tradition has been maintained ever since. So has the routine established by Queen Alexandra—attendance at Sandringham church in the morning, mid-day Christmas dinner, distribution of presents after tea to the domestic staff and in the evening a dance for everybody. It is a happy, jovial occasion.

The Sandringham estate in the north-east corner of Norfolk was purchased by King Edward VII about the time of his marriage in 1863, and the large mansion was executed to his

own design. It stands in the middle of an extensive park, and is reached through the celebrated Norfolk gate at the end of a long drive. Nearby is the ancient village church of Sandringham, which has played such an important part in the life of the royal family for the last ninety years.

At Christmastime the Royal Family dispense with Court formalities as much as possible. The house party is almost entirely composed of members of the family, and only one or two officials are in attendance. The only change which has been brought about in recent years has been the presence of engineers responsible for the royal Christmas broadcast, and they leave the house immediately after it is over.

To The Church

AFTER breakfast, which is always a "help yourself" meal in the tradition of country houses, the royal party gather in the great hall shortly before eleven o'clock. They enter the cars drawn up under the famous porch and drive to the Norfolk gate of the home park. Here they leave the cars and walk the rest of the way to the village church, the road generally being lined by hundreds of people.

The Christmas service itself is simple. The carols are specially chosen and are sung by a choir of local boys and royal

estate workers. The vicar reads the lesson from a Bible whose covers are adorned by every precious stone mentioned in the Holy Scriptures. There is also a short sermon.

The return to Sandringham House is made on foot and by car, and at one o'clock the royal party again assemble, this time in the drawing room, where a liveried butler serves sherry from the cellars laid down by Edward VII.

Modest Repast

THE Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will then lead the company to the dining room for the Christmas feast. In the days of George V, this was an elaborate meal of seven courses, but the late King preferred a more modest repast, very much like the Christmas dinner being served in thousands of ordinary houses. However, at the same time there are always two turkeys reared on the home farm, and a boar's head. The plum pudding is made from a favourite recipe of Queen Victoria. During dinner the Queen will drink everyone's health in champagne.

Before the days of broadcasting the afternoon was left free, but today the royal broadcast has become one of the most exciting events of the day. The microphones are set up in a plainly furnished room on the ground floor of the house, overlooking the terrace and reached by a short flight of steps.

Special transmitting lines to Broadcasting House—there are three to obviate any possibility

of a hitch—are installed some days before. When King George V broadcast he liked to be quite alone, but the late King preferred to have his Queen beside him as he was speaking. The broadcast is rehearsed several times, and during this time the B.B.C. engineers are the guests of the royal family. They are served with precisely the same meal as the Queen.

While the broadcast is taking place, the house party listen in the drawing room at an ordinary set.

Tea is served shortly afterwards, one of the guests being the vicar of Sandringham who always stays on for cold supper later in the evening.

The Presents

THEN comes yet another of the day's occasions when everyone gathers in the bedroom for the distribution of presents. This is a magnificent room which was originally designed by Queen Alexandra and added to later. At one end is a great Christmas tree blazing with lights and the presents are set out on tables round the walls. After their distribution it is the turn of the household staff and the estate workers. It is the custom for everyone in royal employ to receive a gift. During the last war the gift took the form of war savings certificates but lately there has been a reversion to the giving of personal tokens in the way of brooches, cuff-links and tie-pins.

It is quite a ceremony, with all the staff lined up in order of seniority or long service. This

rule is very strictly observed. Nearly all have been in royal service for many years and some of them come from Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle for the occasion. The Queen and the Duke and their children of the royal family know them all personally, and the distribution of gifts is a very intimate ceremony with general conversation all round.

Climax Of Day

THEN comes the climax of the day—the Christmas Ball. It was started by Queen Alexandra in the 1870's and apart from the two world wars has taken place every Christmas night ever since. There used to be a military orchestra in other days but now a dance band comes specially from London.

When the late King was alive he used to have the first dance with the housekeeper while the head butler led the Queen Mother on the floor. This year the Queen will dance with the butler and the Duke of Edinburgh with the housekeeper. Then the dancing becomes general with everyone, taking part from prince to footman, from princess to serving maid. The royal party usually stay until after midnight, but the dancing goes on until the small hours with a cold supper—remains of the Christmas feast—and to the accompaniment of crackers, favours and funny hats.

In fact all the things which for years have gone to the making of a real old-fashioned Merry Christmas.

FOR THEM, IT'S A DELAYED HARVEST

By Peter Graham

CHRISTMAS! The season of goodwill towards all men. Well, not exactly. There is a small but active section of the community who celebrate the festival in unusual ways. Most of these call for our feelings of goodwill to be stretched beyond the elastic limit.

Of course, the big stores have arrangements for this sort of thing, and the average shopper would take on a distinctly furtive look if he realised how carefully he or she was being scrutinised by the innocuous-looking customer further along the counter.

In the Christmas rush, however, the stores detective and neither the space nor the time to watch several hundred pairs of hands at once. In imminent

to find that the birds have flown. Aided in their flight by a trio of broad-shouldered companions who can subsequently been seen having a quiet word in the ear of some unscrupulous butcher.

This seasonal activity has reached such proportions that it will shortly be legalised and made the subject of proper regulation like grouse-shooting and fox hunting.

Thefts from lorries and vans, growing along the roads laden with food, cigarettes and sweets, also show a sharp rise round about Christmas. Careless driving might account for an odd package dropping off here and there, but it does not usually arouse suspicion. Nor, shake out only cigarettes, which had been carefully packed under everything else in the load.

Sometimes a complete van, with its load, unaccountably disappears into thin air. Subsequently discovered out of town, the only record of its cargo is some fast trading in one of the many street markets.



London Express Service.

FOR them Christmas is a delayed harvest time, and the over-stocked big shops the Elysian Fields. Many of them, true seasonal workers, look forward keenly to the friendly crowds jostling them close to the laden counters, and smile benignly at the store's Santa Claus as they surreptitiously load their pockets with merchandise.

Fortunately the majority, whether or not they are graduating from their local shops, are still amateurs. Some ladies find the displays of Christmas goods too great a temptation, especially when they can settle their conscience by pleading slow service from the over-worked shop assistants. Afterwards, having made their uneasy way through the door only to be asked to step back in again for a quiet word with the manager, they invariably swear that this delay had induced an otherwise unaccountable state of absent-mindedness.

Gentlemen, too, are discovered to have "forgotten all about" the handsome shaving kits which they are amazed to find in their coat pockets.

danger of being trampled to death by the advancing female of the species, he is lucky if he can "apprehend" even a few cases of this type of seasonal employment.

During the war an old acquaintance rejoined the list of Christmas miscreants, and as conditions have continued auspicious for him he has stayed on into the piping days of peace. A bird-fancier, he is particularly adept at handling turkeys.

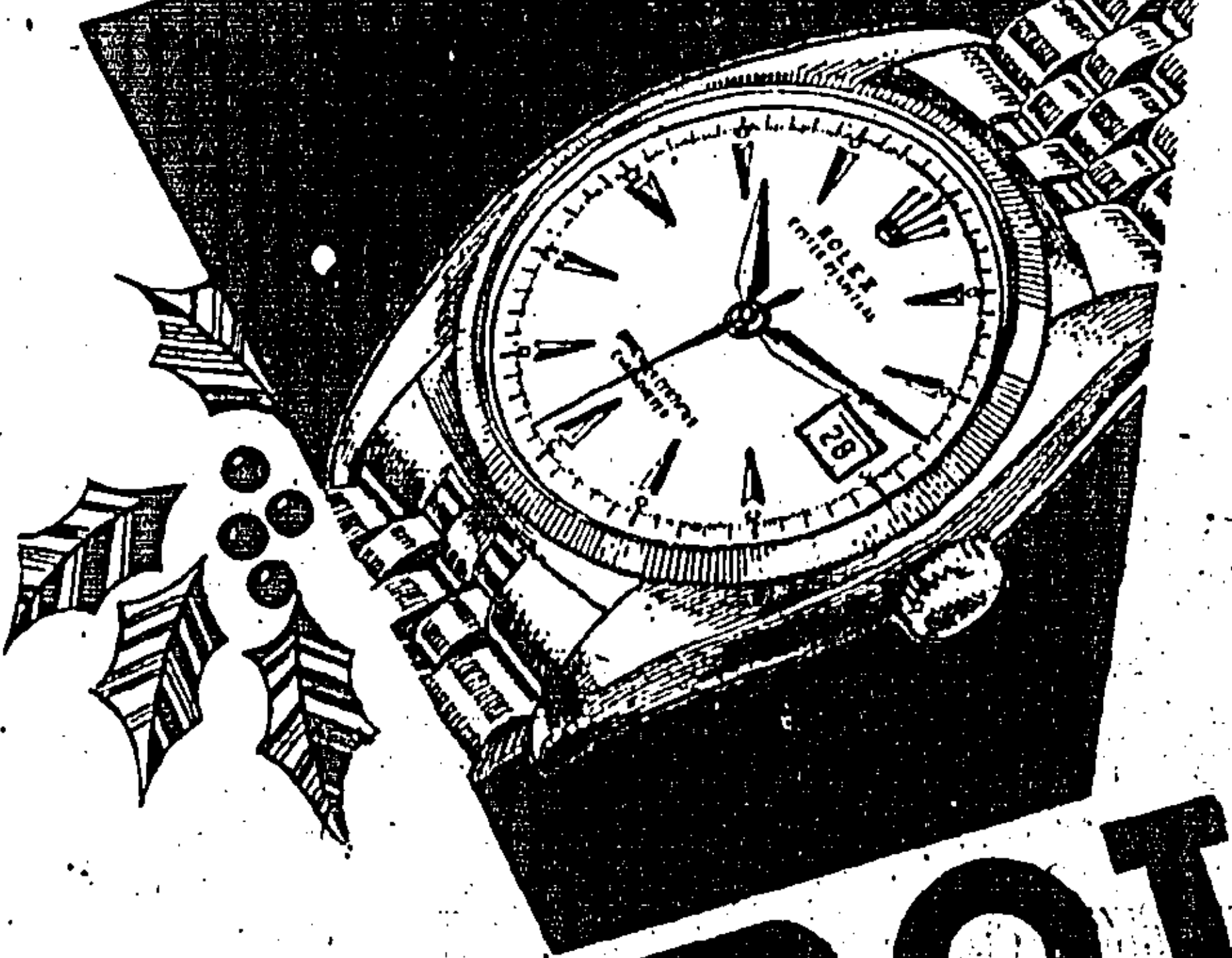
Christmas is the open season for the sport he elects to follow. All over Britain farmers and small-holders watch in gleeful anticipation as their turkeys and geese take on an artificially "stimulated middle-aged spread" in preparation for an untimely death and a fast trip to the dinner table. And all over the country farmers and small-holders are waking one morning for the birds.

THE gentleman responsible for these happenings are rarely seen. They are for the most part night workers, and as the nights are longest about Christmas time it is, naturally enough, the busiest time of their year.

It is encouraging, therefore, to say the least of it, that Scotland Yard, after keeping a careful check on the rate of house-breaking over the past two Christmases, have come to the conclusion that burglars do not increase their efforts over the festive season. After the summer, spent perhaps practising on dummy window catches and glass-fronted doors, they are busily engaged on building up the considerable number of burglaries which occupy the police force during the long winter months.

No doubt over Christmas they keep an eye to the main chance, but the swapping of expensive presents "tricked" beforehand in all the more obvious hiding places in the house, does not seem to stimulate them to extra endeavours. Contrary to popular belief, the burglar is one of the few people who do not go out specially to steal a few presents for the kids.

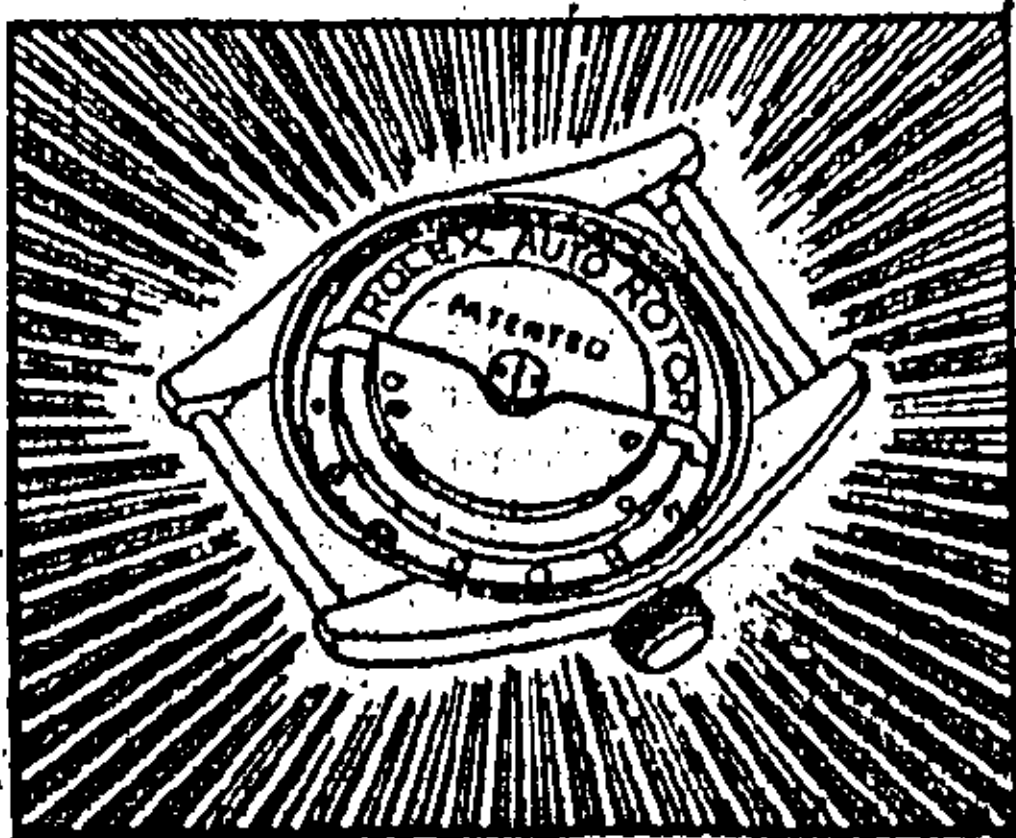
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Christmas SHOPPING GUIDE

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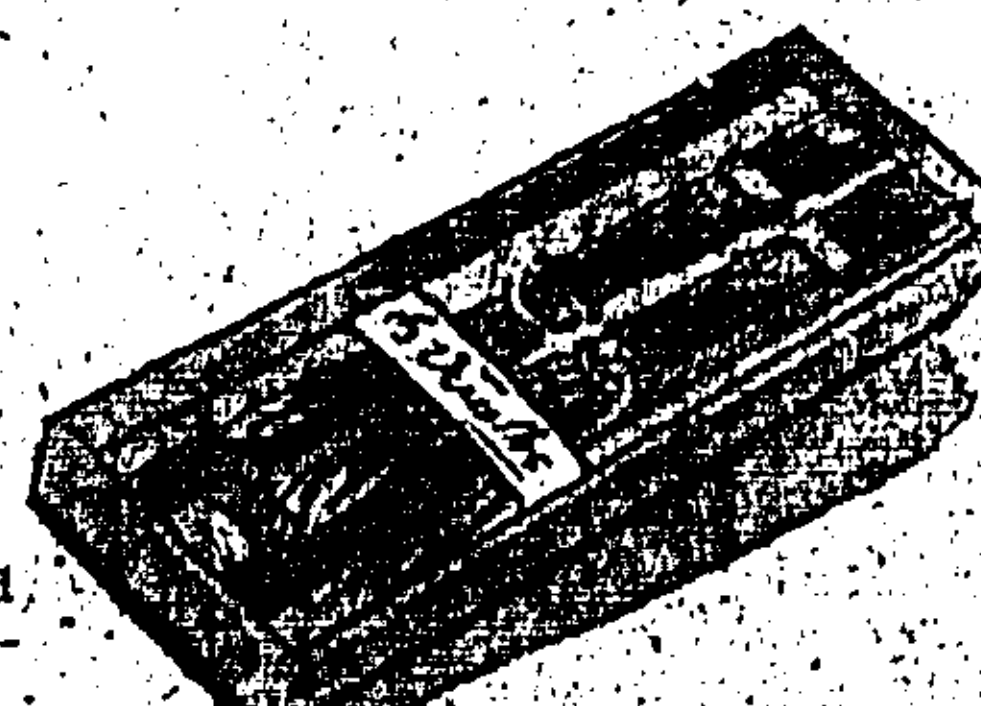
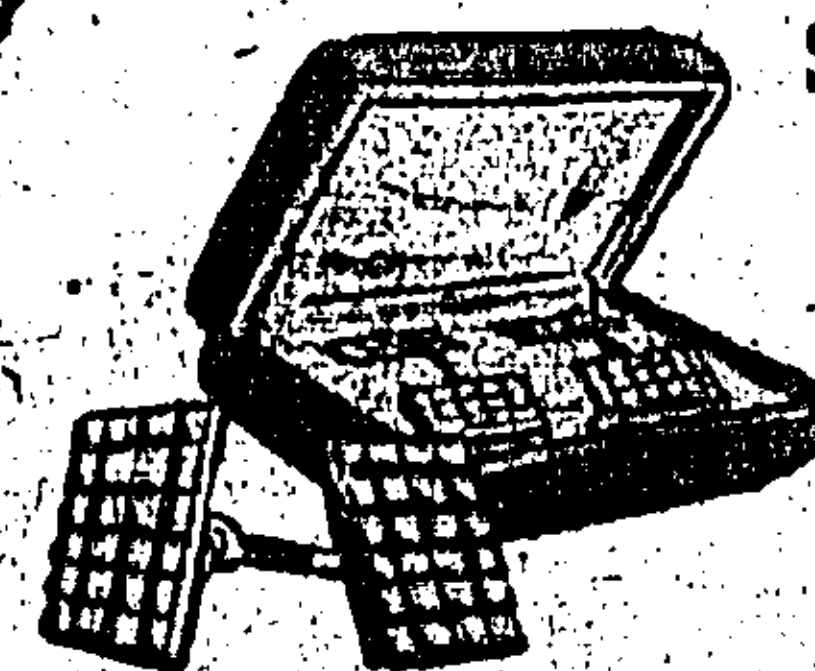
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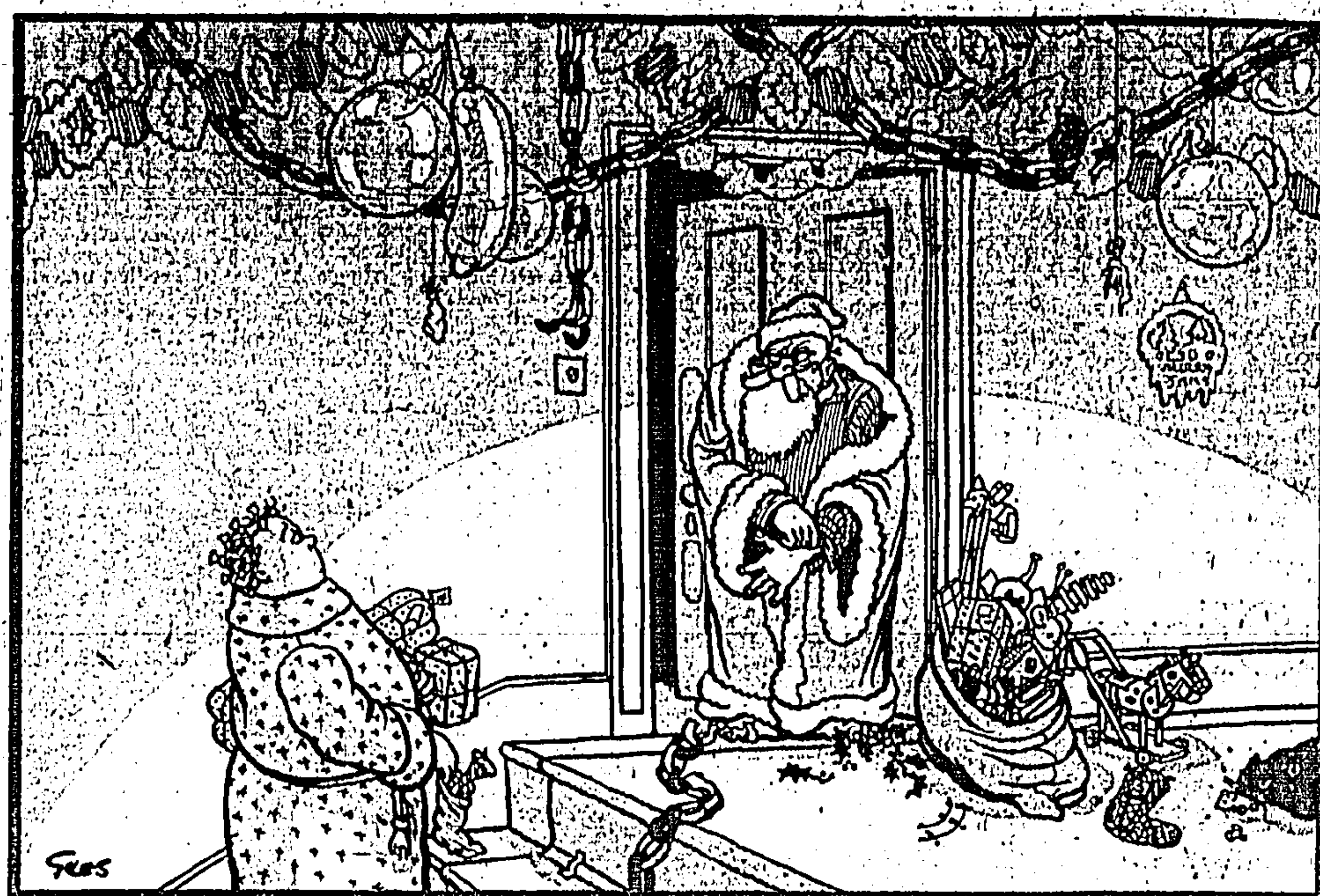
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note to your Christmas Table.



"Emma! Get my slippers—I'll give 'em" "What am I doing wasting money on toys in times like these?"
London Express Service

A Stranger for Christmas

GOOD DEEDS make good news. Ask yourself this: "When the good warm glow of Christmas begins to flow through my household isn't there some UNEXPECTED person I can ask to my fireside to share it?"

Maybe a little boy like this, for example..

By LEONARD MOSLEY

IS THERE an unhappy boy whose outlook on life might be altered for the better—by one gesture of friendship, one act of kindness and generosity from you?

In the part of the world where I live, not very far from London, we have been planning to make one boy who did not expect it much happier for Christmas. May I tell you about it in the hope of setting an example?

Joe is the son of a cowman who works on one of our local farms. At ten he has had to face more troubles than anyone deserves at such an age. His mother has been in hospital for nearly a year and may be a long time coming out again.

His father is a doting parent but only sees his son for a few hours a day. And for the rest of the time he is left in the charge of a district visitor, or neighbours, or relatives from the town.

They are all too grown-up for him and they pity him too obviously.

THERE HE WAS—IN SOMEBODY'S ORCHARD

He started getting into trouble about a year ago and last spring the police were called in. A landowner had found Joe rifling his orchard and called upon the law. Our local sergeant came round and persuaded the landowner not to prosecute.

Then he took Joe back to his home, gave him a meal and a lecture—and afterwards they sat together in the back garden of the sergeant's house.

It so happens that the back garden at our village police

station is a haven for lost dogs. Any stray animal which is found in the neighbourhood is popped into the hut behind the house, fed and cared for by the sergeant's wife, until its owner arrives to claim it—or it is shipped away to the dogs home.

On this day Joe and the sergeant went into the garden there was only one dog there—a spaniel which had been found by the roadside with a cut paw. It bounded over to Joe the moment it saw him. It was a case of pals at first sight.

Drawing by Robb



Well, maybe the police sergeant should not have done it, regulations being what they are, but he handed Joe the spaniel.

And then, giving you temporary control," he said. "Look after it now. Behave well by it. But if the real owner turns up, you will have to give it back."

The spaniel was the making of Joe. It had the same effect on him as sunshine on a cloudy

day. He no longer came around breaking our windows. We did not feel sorry for him any longer.

And then, of course, it happened. The real owner of the spaniel turned up. The sergeant tried to persuade him to let Joe keep the dog. It was not any use.

And then we had the old lonely, miserable, rebellious Joe with us again. He did not cry when he realised he had lost his dog for good. But you could see his small mind working. "So that's what life is like."

AND THEN FOUR NIGHTS AGO

We have had a miserable time with Joe since then. It has been hard to look at him without pity. We offered him another dog but he would not look at the animal.

It has been a black autumn and winter. For Joe it looked like being a grim Christmas.

And then the police sergeant had another idea. He got on his bike and went to see a local breeder of spaniels.

The breeder of spaniels got into his car and went on a journey. To the address the sergeant had given him, taking a spaniel bitch with him.

And four nights ago in a kennel not far from my house there took place an event that was unusually blessed.

Joe is going to have a party. Joe is present—dick Christmas and his one, he cannot refuse since it is the son of the spaniel he loved so well last summer. It is one reason that we are making him a small boy this Christmas.

FAIRBANKS SIFTS THE JUNK

New York. DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, sen. collected his own films for a hobby. They were not worth anything after a few years. After he died, in 1939, they were forgotten.

Recently Douglas Fairbanks jun. has been searching everywhere for them.

He has now found them in a pile of junk in a small shed on Rancho Santa Fe, once owned by his father. They are now valued at about \$250,000.

TV stations are paying high prices for old films to telecast.

QUICK ROAD to Hollywood stardom appears to be ahead for Elaine Mahken.

On November 18 she married actor Mickey Rooney. Now she is appearing with him in "A Slight Case of Larceny."

In the picture she turns down a date with Mickey for a chance to go out with Eddie Dracken.

AMERICA COLUMN from NEWELL ROGERS

INMATES of Connecticut State prison farm invite the public to buy tickets for a complete performance in the prison of Verdi's opera, "La Forza del Destino."

Several inmates have had operatic experience. The cast has learned its parts from records.

SIR BEVAN is counting on future mistakes by President Eisenhower to beat Mr. Attlee.

And put him into 10 Downing Street, writes Joseph Alsop in reports from London.

Alsop's column, printed in over 200 newspapers, says the mistakes might be economic withdrawal of military aid and co-operation in order to balance his budget.

Or a wrong step in the "Big Bear" American that go out with Eddie Dracken.

trous for the Churchill Government and "give the game to Nye."

TICKETS, 6,000 of them, for President Eisenhower's inauguration ball on January 20 will cost \$4 a seat.

There are ten applicants for every ticket. Price of a box for eight to watch the revels—\$2107.

FURNISHED flats for the Corporation are being advertised in the "public notices" column of a New York newspaper by London estate agents. They promise "reasonable rates."

AMERICA'S most famous male ballet star, Andre Eglevsky, started training to dance with Maria Nevelska, ballerina of Moscow, 24 years ago.

He has just brought his son, Andre, aged 10, to the now white-haired Mrs. Nevelska to begin his training.

She is not very impressed with him nor he with her. Said young Andre: "I want to be a jet pilot."

How about a case of *Green Spot* for you to take home for Christmas?



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THE INVISIBLE IMPORT OF MR. WAGI

LONDON. TRYPHON WAGI, a 25-year-old African, has been brought to London because he is a kind of one-man library. He is a repository of nearly all the information available here about a language called Sukuma, that is spoken in a part of Tanganyika that borders the southern shores of Lake Victoria.

Wagi's people (the Wa-Sukuma) have spoken the language for a long time; but their words have never been written down. Now, in Bloomsbury, experts are drawing upon Wagi's memory of his native tongue to build up a written language from the 2,000-odd basic words in the spoken vocabulary. They are words that sound like this: Leelo, meaning today; Siliwa, meaning food; minzi, meaning water.

The 'informant'

Wagi was training to be a teacher in a town called Mwanza when the offer of this London job arrived. He returned to his village, "12 hours by boat at eight knots, then 91 miles by bus," and told his family. A week or two later he was in London.

He works as an "informant" at London University's School of Oriental and African Studies, which deals in one of Britain's most picturesque but little-known languages. "Informant" is the school's word for the men it brings in to speak in these, their native tongues, to English scholars.

The school deals in languages such as Shilluk, Kikuyu, Fulani, Enk (all African); Lepcha, spoken in the Himalayas; Sundanese, which is important in West Java; Vekio, a language used in the Solomon Islands. During the last war the school was teaching 1,029 students, mostly from the Services, languages like Japanese and Chinese.

The Foreign Secretary, in 1940, set up a Commission headed by Lord Scarbrough (now Lord Chamberlain) to go into the whole matter of teaching Oriental, African, Slavonic and East European languages, and the result of the Commission's findings was a financial grant that allowed expansion of the school's work. In 1950 the staff was 40; now it is 141.

New methods

The school's secretary, Lieutenant H. Moore-Bartlett (an ex-regular soldier with an Oxford MA), suggested why the school was growing in importance. "It seems to me," he said, "only common sense to say that the history of the second half of this century is going to be written—in Africa and Asia.

"Our primary difficulty was recruiting teaching staff. Languages like Arabic and Chinese have been taught here for many

years. But the Southeast Asian and African languages had no degree courses. We found we had to devise our own training methods."

The method evolved was to take a graduate with some linguistic qualifications, train him for a time in the school, then send him to live for a year or more among the people who spoke the language concerned. With him would go the "informant" who had been at his side all along. As far as possible the trainee would live the life of the people.

From Katmandu

One school lecturer who has undergone such a course is Mr. Thomas Webbourn Clark. He is recently back from Katmandu, in Nepal, where he went to study the Nepalese language. His "informant," Pushkar Shumshere Jang Bahadur Rana, has travelled back to England with him.

At the school, the spoken word is virtually turned into "pictures" to aid study and research. Professor J. R. Firth, head of the phonetics and linguistics department, who spent 10 years in Lahore, and is a specialist in the languages of India and Pakistan, showed me the laboratory, a small room, with recording studios leading from it. In it stands the camera, bought for £3 second-hand that formed the basis for some of the complex instruments used now.

The palatograph

One such instrument is the palatograph, which by a system of casts of the speaker's palate, and photographs of the casts, shows just where the tongue lies in the mouth when a word is spoken, or a syllable, in some strange dialect.

Coming away from the laboratory, I asked the Professor one question more. "Are the English such bad linguists as they are made out?"

"You mean the British?" he answered. "We are somewhat shy of speaking the languages of our neighbours. But there are two fields in which the British excel—phonetics, and dictionary-making. The reputation the British have for being bad linguists on the whole is just not true."

The School is using its part to ensure that we improve.

Eva Bartok introduces THE HANDBAG STEREOSCOPE



TREND

A column that scans the world for news you may see later in the tall headlines.

by JAMES BARTLETT

YOU will soon be able to spot a dated touch in the most apparently up-to-date test-pilot films and stories.

The note-pad strapped to the test-pilot's knee is going out. When he flies faster than round he now has his hands too full to jot down how his new aircraft is behaving.

In place of the note-pad: a voice recorder. The test-pilot speaks into a mouthpiece and can tell by the vibrations in his headphones that his verbal notes are being safely recorded on steel tape.

IN FASHION

WOMEN'S fashions, already dipping into the First Elizabethan Age for next year's Coronation colours (rich golds, blues, and reds), will soon list their demands from a more recent age.

Long gloves and a n d t h o moulded "Edwardian silhouette"—a flashback to Queen Alexandra—will be produced by designers with the comment that they are correct for "the days of gracious

living that should be coming back."

IN PLEASURE

FILM men have an international year book (issued from New York) that for 24 years has been coming out as "The Motion Picture Almanac."

The edition for 1953 has a trend-revealing: "The Motion Picture and Television Almanac."

IN TITLES

WOMEN in the top town hall jobs are recelling against the title "Mr. Mayor," a traditional form of address to any occupant of the mayoral chair.

Now—with more than 40 women mayors in Britain—the women argue: "If it is legal to have a woman mayor, it is legal to be called Madam Mayor."

Countrywide trend is for more women councillors, so the motion is likely to be carried.

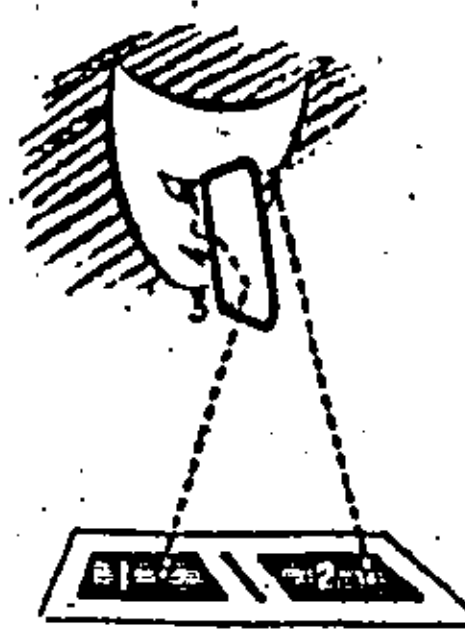
IN BUSINESS

IT IS not a piquette with the Russians—as more and more British firms will soon find out. They are to be offered a British Government-sponsored service of translations from Russian technical journals. The charge: 2s. 6d. to 8s. a page, depending on how many firms are interested in particular articles.

Sample titles on the first lists: "How to keep an average of 25... 'How to develop fruit buds in autumn and winter'... 'Use of ultrasonic energy in the textile industry'."

Some firms will find that samples of their own products are being tested in Russian laboratories and then reported on in the Russian technical magazines.

For a long time there has been a craze in America for getting the stereoscope effect with a handbag mirror and special twin sets of home-printed pictures. Demonstrating the idea to friends in London, film-star Eva Bartok posed in the stereo-pair study above. The diagram and the picture below show—



HOW THE IDEA WORKS



"SEEING STEREO" the the images of the stereo. A new way is good fun. All you need is a handbag mirror. Then look directly at the mirror. A one-sided one. Place these Eva Bartok diagram—with the left eye, stereo-pictures—or any And at the reflection of other suitable ones—on a flat surface...

Hold the mirror—with the reflecting surface on the right—alongside your nose and align: perpendicularly with the white line between the two images over-

lap. This immediately produces a three-dimensional effect.



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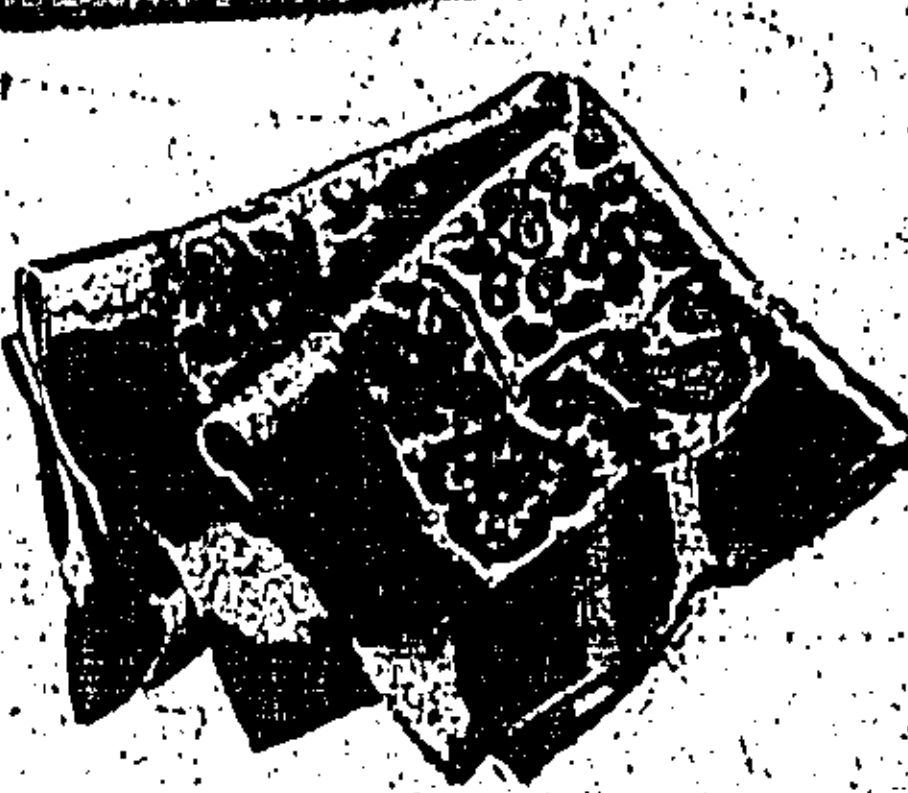


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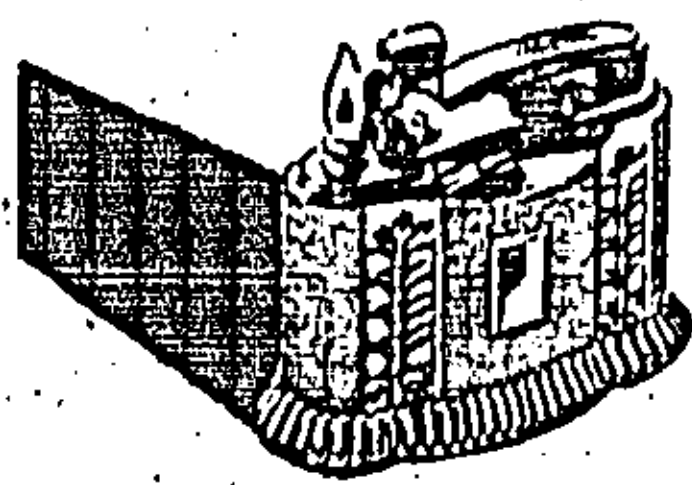
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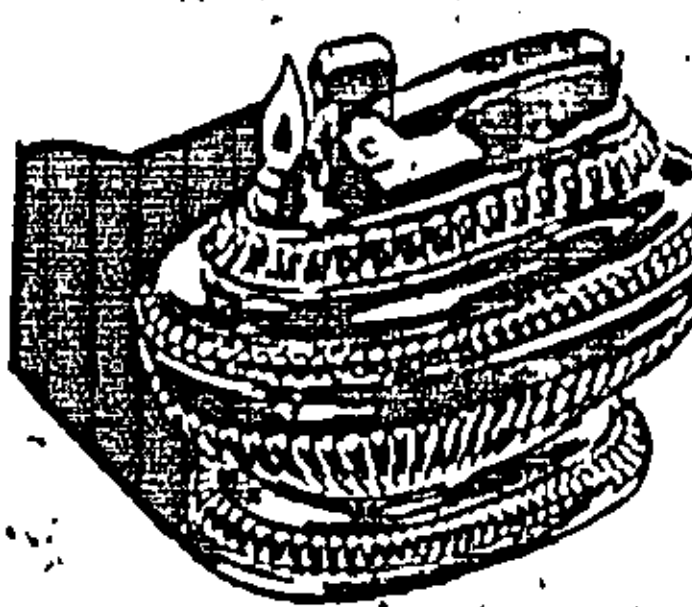
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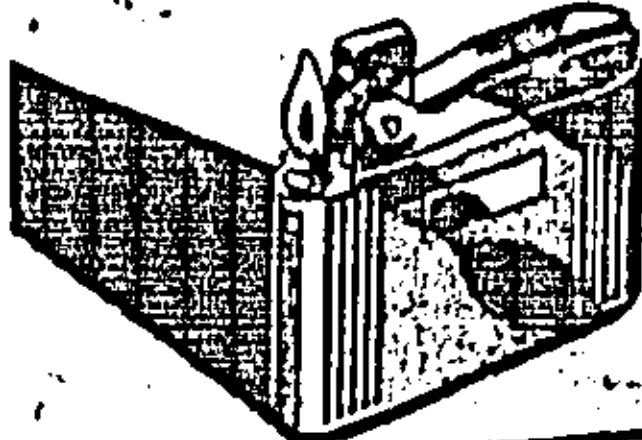
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wife gives husband —

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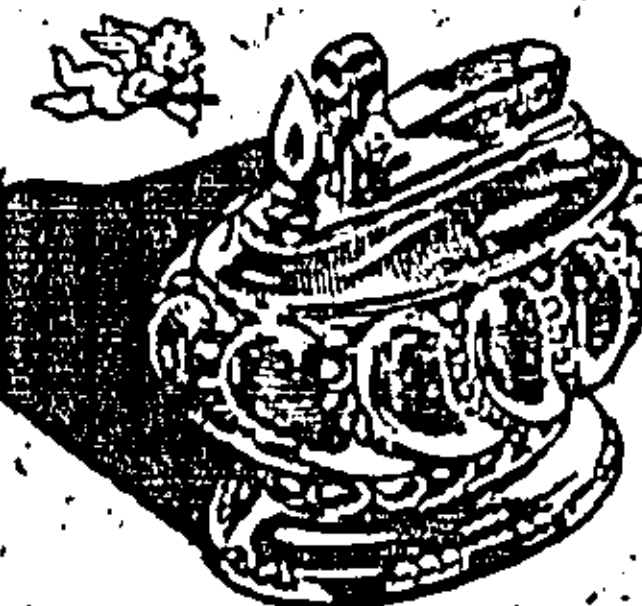


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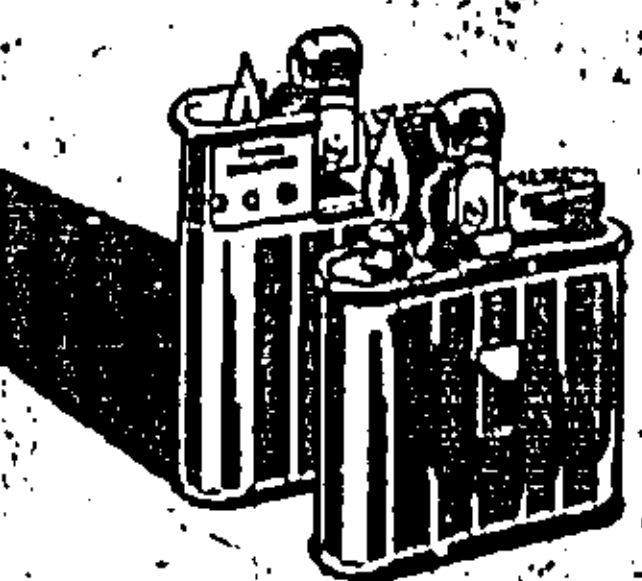
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COOKING THE GOOSE

DUMPLING, followed by Peter and Joan, each carrying a bulging stocking, popped their heads round the door.

"Merry Christmas!" shouted the children.

"Merry Christmas," replied their Mother sleepily; but Mr Perkins only grunted and turned over in bed.

Dumpling took a flying leap and landed on the hump under the blankets. "Wake up, Daddy, it's Christmas morning," she said.

"I don't hear Cookie about," said their Mother, as the children delved into their stockings, and brought out one exciting thing after the other. As she spoke there was a tap on the door, and there stood Cook, her head wrapped round in a thick woollen scarf.

"Merry Christmas all," she said glumly.

"Is anything wrong?" asked Mrs Perkins.

"It's me nooralgia, Mum," said Cook.

"You'd better pop back to bed and Joan will bring you some breakfast," suggested Mrs Perkins.

As Cook waddled back to her room, Peter said "What about the Christmas goose? We must have the goose! It won't seem a bit like Christmas if we have to eat things like cold meat and salad."

Only The Old Celebrate Christmas In Russia

ONLY the old celebrate Christmas openly in Russia — those who no longer care about their future. Others must be more careful. If they hope to get on in their careers, they cannot afford to offend the powers that be — and to believe in the meaning of Christmas, even to go to church, can dog a man for life.

Christmas is not banned by Stalin; like the Church, it is simply ignored. While candles glitter on the Christmas tree in the free world, men behind the Iron Curtain are at their desks and factory benches. For Christmas in Russia is a normal working day.

It was not always so. There were once Christmas traditions like ours. The Christmas tree was brought to Russia by the German wife of Czar Paul in the 18th century, about the time Queen Charlotte is said to have introduced it into England.

Father Christmas was also part of the Christmas scene. He did not come down the chimney, however, for the chimney has evil associations in Russian folk-lore. In some districts he appeared not only with a sack of toys but a small birch rod, too, enquiring sternly into the children's behaviour before giving them their presents.

But the secular celebration of Christmas was always dominated by the sacred. In the four weeks of Advent, as meat or eggs would be eaten and on Christmas Eve a total fast was observed until the coming of the first star.

The first star signalled the birth of Christ, and the festivity began. Children and choir would go, each singing in the streets, and each group would carry a bright star high on a pole. After Mass on Christmas Day, the priests from the church would visit each family in the parish, going inside to say prayers beside the icons and blessing the house.

CHRISTMAS SHORT STORY BY CLAIRE MOORE

"Who said anything about not having the goose?" said his Mother.

"Oh, Mummy, do let me cook it!" pleaded Joan.

"Well, it's no good expecting Cook to do anything if she's got one of her turns," sighed Mrs Perkins. "Let's go and look in the larder."

The family trooped downstairs, with the exception of Mr Perkins who turned over for another snooze.

In the larder everything was in apple-pie order: the pudding tied up in a snowy cloth, jellies and a trifle standing ready to eat—a huge iced cake in one tin, while there were rows and rows of crisp mince pies in another.

"You'd almost think Cookie knew she was going to have neuralgia," said Joan. "What's this funny looking stuff?"

"That's the stuffing for the goose... Cook certainly HAS thought of everything."

"But, I'd much rather have done it all myself," grumbled Joan.

"Well, you shall cook the goose," laughed her Mother. "We will all go out and play in the snow, and come back when it is all ready. Perhaps I'd better stuff it for you?" But Joan shook her head.

"My first Christmas dinner! Wait till I tell the girls at the cookery class!" she said.

It was very quiet in the warm kitchen, the only sounds were those of the kettle singing on the hob, and the striped cat purring on the hearth. Joan had just succeeded in stuffing the goose and popping it in the oven when the kitchen door opened.

"Why, Cookie, you gave me quite a fright!" said Joan.

Cook, dressed now in her best hat and coat, stalked into the room. "I thought you'd gone out with the others," she snapped.

"I'm cooking the Christmas dinner," explained Joan.

"What?" shouted Cook. She strode to the larder and flung open the door. "Where's that stuffing?" she demanded.

"Inside the goose, of course!" laughed Joan.

Cook turned suddenly pale, then turned and almost ran from the room. Joan heard her hurry upstairs, then the sound of doors slamming.

"I do hope the stuffing is going to be all right," thought Joan.

Peeping out into the hall she saw Cook hurry downstairs again, this time carrying a large suitcase, which she thumped crossly on each step as she descended.

"But what about your neuralgia?" said Joan.

Cook glared at her. Then she opened the front door and was gone, moving, in spite of the suit case, faster than Joan had ever seen her move before.

"Now, there is only the table to fix," said Mrs Perkins, when the family returned.

"Bags I," said Dumpling. "I'm jolly good at arranging flowers and crackers and things."

"Pooh," said Peter. "Well, bags I DON'T wash up, then."

"We must all help, except Joan; she's done her share," decided Mrs Perkins.

"I am busy," said Mr Perkins. "I must get out Mummy's present."

"Do you mean to say you haven't given Mummy her present yet?" said Dumpling and Peter.

"It's a very special present," explained Mr Perkins.

"Why is it special?" demanded Dumpling. But her Father was too busy running through his desk to reply, growing more and more frantic as he tossed one pile of papers after the other to the floor.

"It's gone!" he shouted.

"You can buy me another after Christmas," said Mrs Perkins.

"But I only buy diamonds once in a lifetime," said her husband sadly.

"Diamonds?" gasped Mrs Perkins. Her husband nodded.

"Children," she said, "Pick up all those papers, and let's have dinner. Daddy, you go and help Joan bring the things in."

"And afterwards we can all play 'Hunt the diamonds,'" said Mr Perkins. Mrs Perkins tried to laugh, but she really felt too upset to eat.

"Take my share to Cookie," she said. "She must have some of this excellent goose, neuralgia or no."

Joan looked up from her plate. "Oh, but I forgot," she said. "Cookie's gone."

"Has she indeed," shouted Mr Perkins. "And what did she take with her?"

"Joan turned, rather pink. "It seemed a bit odd. She went off with her suitcase," she said.

"And your brooch was in it, no doubt," groaned Mr Perkins.

"Why, have you lost a brooch, Mummy?" asked Joan, who had been busy in the kitchen when the present had been missed. "I thought it was Cookie's," she added. She slipped her hand into her pocket and held out a small glittering brooch. Mr Perkins took it from her.

"There you are, my dear. And a merry Christmas to you... but I don't see how it came to be in the kitchen. Was it on the floor?"

Joan shook her head. "It was in the sunniest place!" she laughed. "I nearly pricked myself with it. That's what made me think it was Cookie's, you see, but she went off so quickly I never had time to ask her..."

"Where was it?" chorused Peter and Dumpling.

"It was mixed in with the stuffing," said Joan. "But, of course, I never thought they were DIAMONDS!"

This is
the Gin

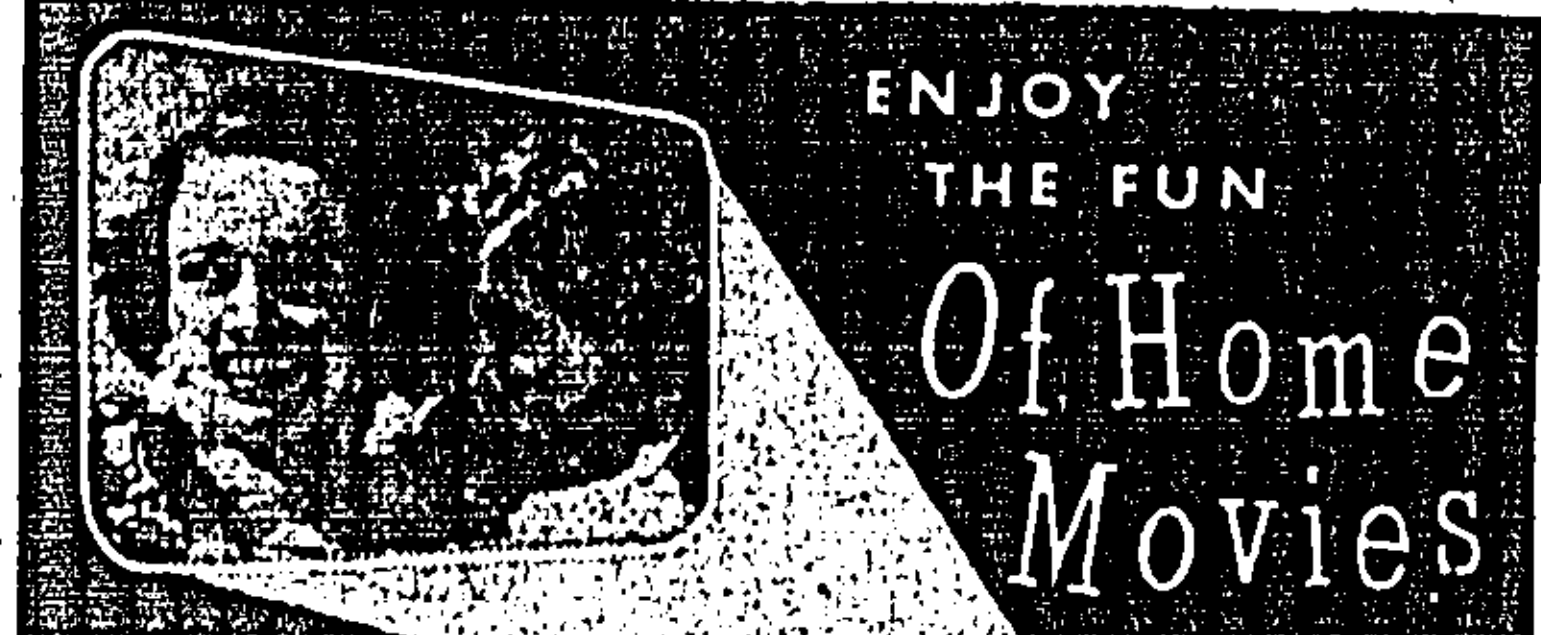


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JOHNNY HAZARD

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I AM! BUT "PUNCH" SEEMS TO HAVE PASSEP OUT!

YOU DO THAT WHILE I CHECK 'TO GEE IF "PUNCH" HAS ANY BROKEN BONES!

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YULETIDE WOMANSENSE

THIS WAY FOR PARTY FASHION

By Dorothy Barkley

DRESSING for a party is the one Christmas occasion which does not call for too much decoration. Most women, fortunately, will agree that a minimum of trimmings and furbelows create a far better effect.

But some party-goers still contrive to flaunt the "Christmas Tree look"—too much jewellery, too many artificial flowers, and a posse of bracelets worn at one and the same time. There is a simple explanation for this. It is caused by a lack of systematic planning. A great deal of time and trouble have been spent on choosing the dress—be it cocktail, little time and trouble are evening or dinner; but too spent on the accessories that are to be worn with it. Yet it is the accessories that mark the difference between a woman who is elegant and one who is merely well-dressed.

It is not only those who have money to spend on beautiful clothes who are the outstanding amongst party-goers. Those with original and inexpensive ideas of their own for accessories—even if the dress itself is two years old—can be equally successful.

Consider some of the ideas suggested here. Their success

depends on the way you wear them. Can you carry them off with a flair, wearing them in an individual, not everyone else's, way?

Starred for Christmas evening occasions are:

Reversible shawl. With long black fringes. This particular model is in light-weight wool jersey—emerald green contrasted with black—and is simple enough to make yourself at home. If even a light-weight wool does not suit the climate, choose a fringed shawl in open-work lace pattern. It is the most fashionable complement for a cocktail or evening dress. (Illustrated).

Cocktail gloves. Do you realize that gloves are not merely something to keep the hands covered, concealed or warm, but can be the elegant accessory? Take these cocktail gloves as an example. The way to be different with gloves this Christmas is to have them fringed, spattered with soapbubble sequins or trimmed round the cuff and side seam with a nylon fringe. To be original, wear a bracelet outside the glove (Illustrated).

The art of wearing flowers. The fashionable way is an art to be acquired. This year, wear an outside, double-centred rose pinned to the shoulder of the dress. Or make an "armlet" of flowers, sewn onto a band, and wear it just below the elbow. Again wear a pair of gold slip-

earrings and twine a tiny flower round each one. (Illustrated). Or sew a group of artificial flowers to the corner of a handkerchief and let it trail from a hip pocket (Illustrated).

To give an unusual touch to your evening dress, why not have a mink (or other fur) choker and match it with a miniature fur muff? The muff can do double duty as an evening bag—if it has a zipped pocket in the lining. (Illustrated).

An original type of carrying for the occasion. Is styled after a miniature pewter jug, and screws onto the car. Place a small piece of cotton wool,

saturated with your perfume, in each jug. (Illustrated).

If you want an evening bag in the newest shape, choose a circular one in transparent perspex, fastened with a gilt clasp. (Illustrated).

Or a grey cap with a different air? The newest is simply a band of ribbed knitting pulled over the head, 1920's style, and finished with any type of brooch from a cat's paw to costume jewellery. (Illustrated).

Finally, go to the party in a mood to enjoy yourself, and not in the mood expressed by Frost: "Parties have little reality until the following day, when they occupy the attention of the people who were not invited."

Reminding You

Have you got in stock some cooking brandy to set the Christmas pudding on fire? (Warm the brandy before you light it).

Have you one or two extra little presents in hand, in case an unexpected guest comes to the house?

Did you remember to get in plenty of counters, string, spare packs of cards, and balloons for party games?

One of the best ways to get things going is to work out a treasure hunt. It helps break the ice for early-comers and brings each new arrival right into the centre of things. It's a grand device, too, for the shy children who seem to be part of every party. Bury the treasure in very difficult and inaccessible locations. The loot can be made up of small toys and novelties, items small enough to wrap and hide about the room. Each child may find one present to open, then place under the tree



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The Table



A fascinating Christmas dinner table setting contest was recently held in America. Some tables were outstandingly original and beautiful.

One prize winner utilised the tumbledown of the prairie, for centerpiece. This was "frostied" arranged as an oblong bouquet, decorated with scarlet Christmas tree balls, and set on a long mirror. The tablecloth was white; glassware red, the tapers white.

Wherever we may live, there are always dried pods, or grasses, greens, branches, native plants, flowers or fruits that can be used with equal originality.

Buffet Supper

Another prize winner was a holiday buffet supper table covered with a handsome heliogramed paisley shawl, centred with a large silver compote dish filled with fruit; 2 three-branched candelabra were on the table. English walnuts were scattered here and there, picking up the paisley pattern of the shawl.

One Christmas dinner table decoration features Santa Claus in his sleigh, driving his reindeer over a rounding little bridge which goes up and across an oval mirror, partly covered with patches of cotton dusted with "snow," depicting small streams in winter-time. Tiny pine trees are spotted here and there. And the table is lighted with candelabra decorated with holly tied on with scarlet ribbons. The buffet will be candle-lighted, the mantel over the dining-room fireplace banked with holly, and the grate with pine.

She goes out to buy him

a present... this is her plan

By SYLVIA COUGH

GIVE any man any present and he will say "Thank you"—and probably murmur to his friends afterwards: "When will she learn to buy me what I want?"

But the thanks don't have to be just polite. He will say "Thank you" and mean it if you think before you buy.

For when it comes to Christmas, there are only two sorts of men: young men and older men.

THE YOUNG MAN wants a gift that will flatter him into thinking he is older and more mature than he is.

THE OLDER MAN probably has nearly everything he wants—so give him something he would buy for himself, and he will thank you for saving him the bother.

IF HE IS very young, play safe with something you know he does not possess: a leather wallet, a cigarette lighter, an initialled propelling pencil, or discreet cuff-links.

IF HE IS an undergraduate, he would like (though you probably would NOT like the idea) something in tune with his current affectation: a walking-stick, a tobacco jar, a pipe rack.

IF HE IS the sporting type, with a car of his own, why not give him a gadget to play with? A tyre-gauge in a little leather case, a cigarette lighter to fix

COULD BE one of those fancy waistcoats (you get them in wool with that taffeta buck). **COULD BE** a musical alarm clock with a cigarette box (open it, and you get a time as well as a cigarette. **COULD BE** a clothes brush (zip reveals a manicure set).

to the dashboard, or a map-roller that measures distances on an ordnance survey map.

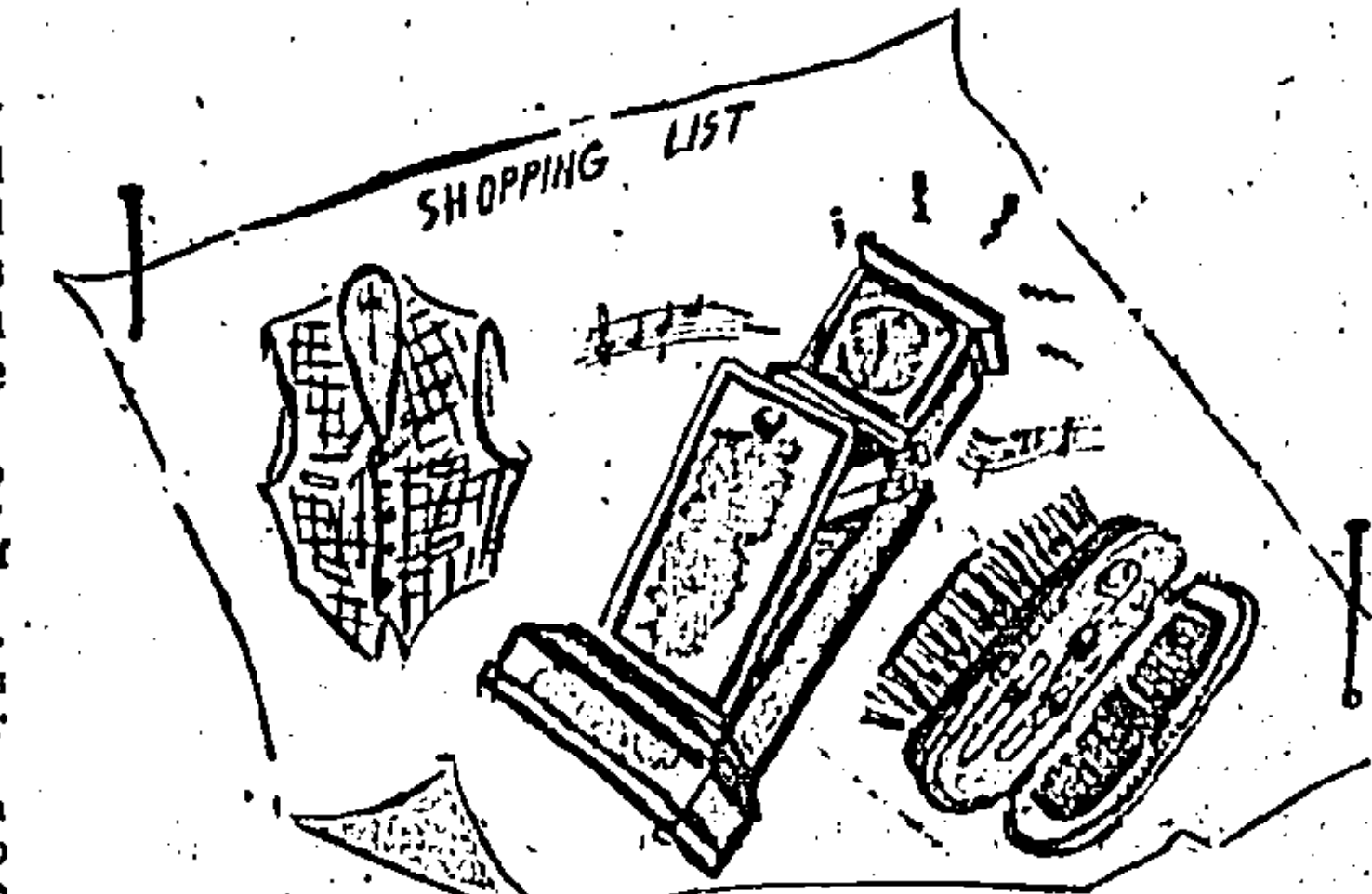
IS HE just starting in a profession? Then he is young enough for the gift that adds flattery to his self-esteem: leather stud-box, an umbrella, a supply of fine white linen handkerchiefs, a grey silk tie.

With some men, the problem is no problem. For the man about-town, something elegant to wear, such as a fancy waistcoat (careful now—not too fancy), or an evening coat, or a regimental tie.

And the countryman will be kept happy if he is kept warm—so you cannot go wrong with a polo-necked sweater, or sheepskin-lined gloves.

When it comes to the older man, your expenditure increases and your worry decreases; cigars, drink, or perhaps a set of garden labels complete with special ink for writing on them.

You see, it is quite easy really, provided you have the patience. And the money. And if you are stuck—well, there is always another tie.



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HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR and Lady Grantham arriving at the tenth annual exhibition of local products sponsored by the Hongkong Chinese Manufacturers' Union. The fair has drawn an average daily crowd of over 37,000. (Staff Photographer)



GROUP picture taken at the wedding of Mr Chan Shu-woon and Miss Kam Pik-yun. The groom is the third son of General Chan Chai-tong, a former Governor of Kwangtung Province. (Staff Photographer)



MR John Davidson (right), Senior Revenue Inspector, who is retiring from Government service, is seen being presented with a farewell gift by the Director of Commerce and Industry, Mr P. C. M. Sodgwick. (Staff Photographer)



"HOW CHARM-ING!" A visitor to the Kowloon Girl Guides' bazaar last Saturday admiring exhibits in the miniature potted plants section. (Staff Photographer)



PICTURE taken at the annual dinner given by the Directors of the Po Leung Kuk. Mr Bunnan Tong, the Chairman, is fourth from left. (Staff Photographer)



MRS William Choy, wife of the President of the King's College Old Boys' Association, presenting prizes at the annual dinner of the Association last week. (Staff Photographer)



RIGHT: Mr Reggie Coelho and Miss Vilma Coelho, joint champions at roller skating. They won the title of the charity contest sponsored by the Chung Shing Benevolent Association and held at the Kowloon Chinese YMCA. (Staff Photographer)



MASTER Tang Chau-kay is seen about to cut the cake at the party given on his second birthday. He is the son of Mr and Mrs Tang Park-wai. (Ming Yuen)

BELOW: Mr Leung Ki-kai receiving from Mrs K. C. Yeo the Pharmacological Society's gold medal for attaining highest grade at the 1950 final examinations. (Jimmy Foo)



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DR J. Smid showing to the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. R. B. Black, some of the exhibits at the Unesco Travelling Scientific Exhibition, which opened at the Grantham Training College last Monday. (Staff Photographer)



GROUP photograph taken after the christening last Saturday at St Teresa's Church of Jennifer Mary, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs C. R. Tiernan. (Staff Photographer)

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HONGKONG'S new Air Officer Commanding, Air Commodore R. C. Field, arrived by the liner Canton on Monday. Air Commodore Field and Mrs. Field (on the right) are here seen with Group Captain and Mrs. Pearson and Mr. S. E. Faber, Honorary Air Commodore of the Hongkong Auxiliary Air Force. (Staff Photographer)



MR. Loo Hin-hung and Miss Choi Wing-pui, whose marriage took place at the Registry this week. (Mainland)



CANON A. P. Koso, who has given up his post as Dean of St. John's Cathedral to join the University, speaking at a party given in his honour at the Cathedral Hall on Wednesday. (Staff Photographer)



THE British Red Cross Society arranged a Christmas party at the children's ward of the Tung Wah Eastern Hospital on Wednesday. The adults in the picture are (from left) Mr. M. M. Annett, Mr. Wong Kang-sai, Mrs. R. B. Scott and Mrs. O. M. Williams. (Staff Photographer)



LEFT: A young visitor to the St. Vincent de Paul Society's annual At Fresco Fete carefully takes aim at the hoopla section. The fair, held last Sunday, was a great success. (Staff Photographer)

RIGHT: Mr. M. Gopala Menon, Representative of the Government of India, speaking at the opening on Thursday of the Hongkong Indian Chamber of Commerce. (Staff Photographer)



LEFT: Mr. K. K. Booy, President of the Malayan Association, speaking at a dinner given by the Association last week. Seated on right is Mr. U. Tat-chao, Patron. (Staff Photographer)



GROUP picture taken after the wedding of Mr. Wong Wan-hung and Miss Lee Hauch-cheng at the Registry last week. (Staff Photographer)

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SCENES at some of this week's school prizegivings. Top left: Mrs. B. G. K. Hawkins at the Yee Wah Girls School. Top right: Bishop Bligh at the Sacred Heart School. Lower left: Mrs. L. Kadoorie at the Kebleton Junior School. Lower right: Mr. John Sturges at the Kebleton Junior School. (Staff Photographer)

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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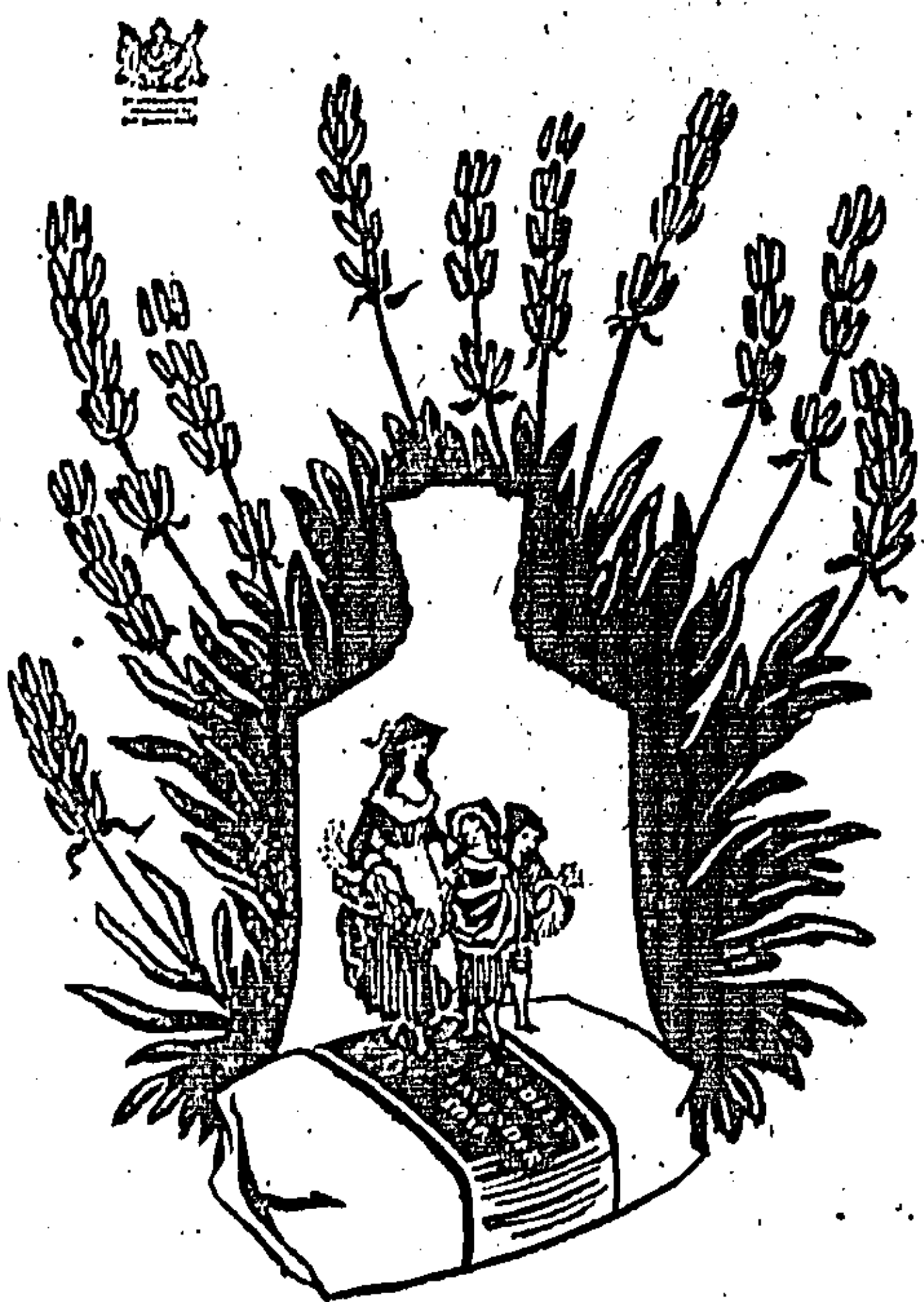
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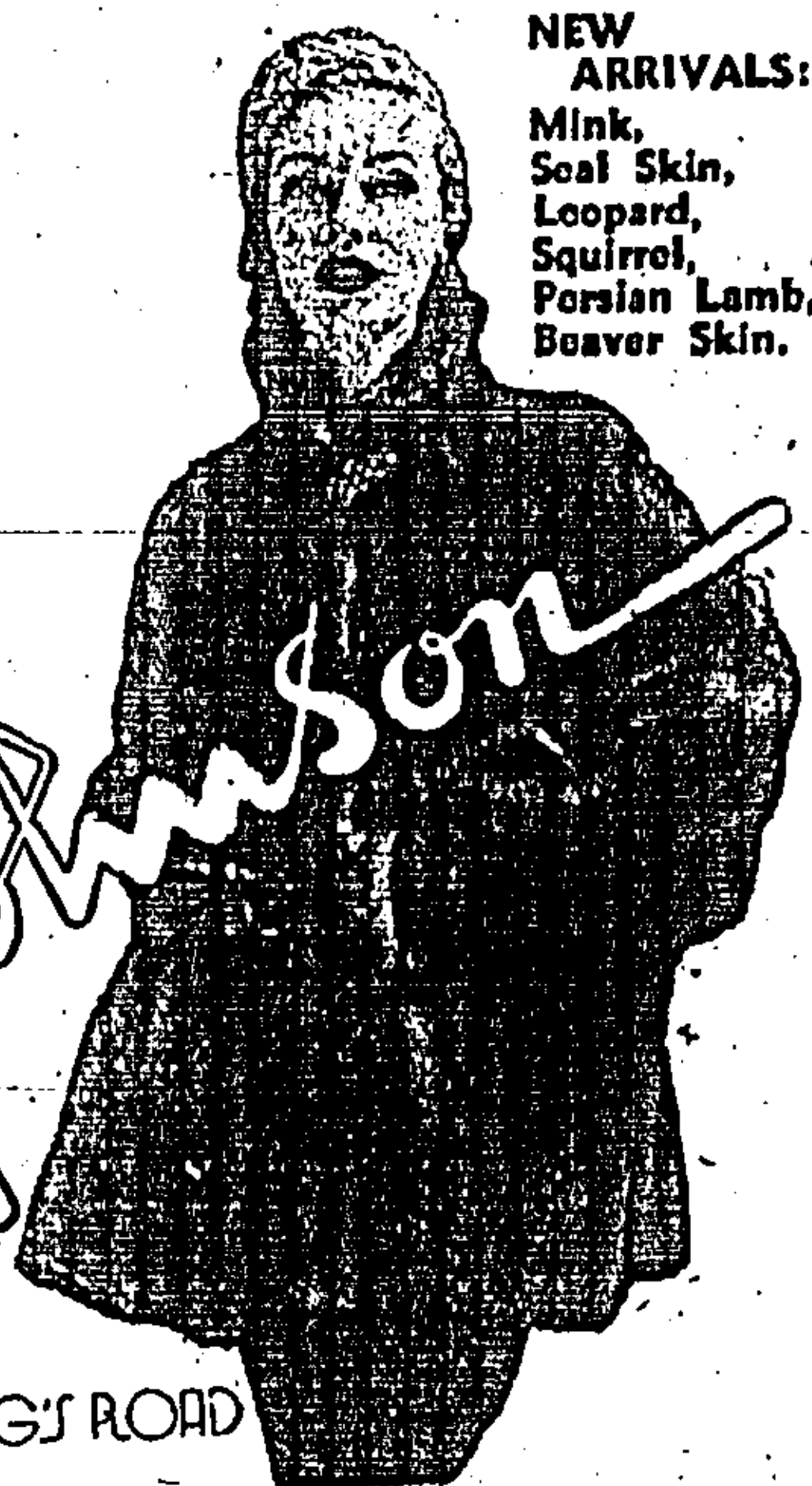
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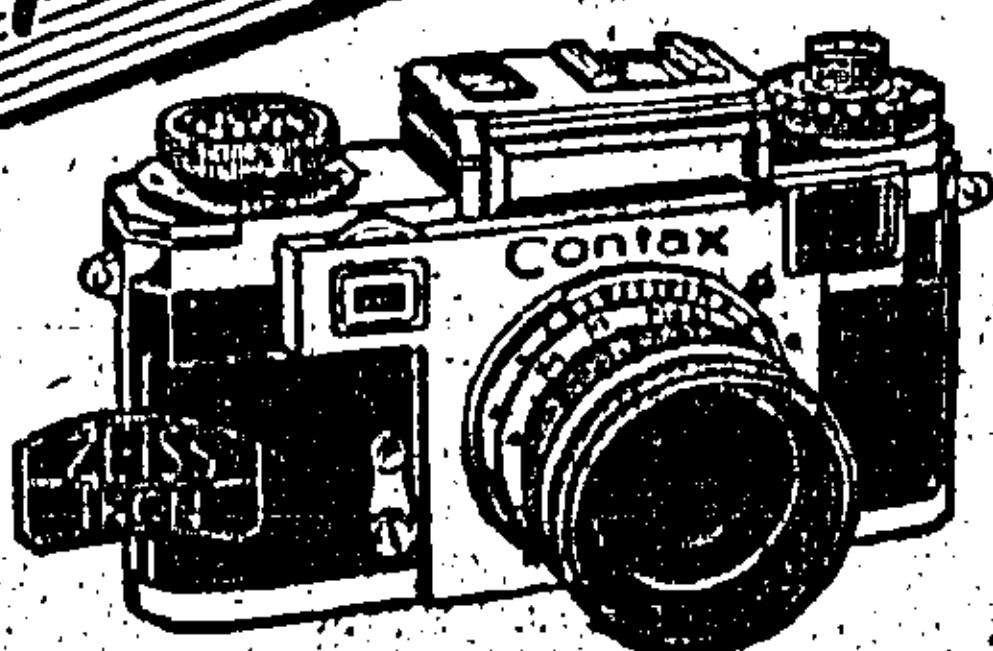
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PARTY RECIPES

HAVE you kept to the well-tried favourites, the traditional Christmas recipes?

There are few things to which each country, in its own way, attaches more tradition than to the Christmas menu. But without breaking violently with tradition, wouldn't something new, perhaps an idea from abroad, add spice to the occasion?

Try, for cosmopolitan flavour, some of the following continental and American ideas. Be brave about your originality—stick to the original names.

ITALY

ZABAGLIONE, an unusual cherry based drink. For two portions you will need:

3 egg yolks
1-2 tablespoons sugar
2 half eggshells cherry (or Marsala or Madeira)
Beat yolks until thick, add sugar and beat until dissolved. Measure sherry in half eggshell and warm slightly. Add to egg yolks and beat over barely simmering water until thickened and very light. Turn into serving glasses and top with a dash of cinnamon.

Another favourite of the Italian housewife is **COTOLETTA ALLA MILANESE** (veal cutlets dipped in whipped eggs smothered with bread crumbs and fried).

FRANCE

Two suggestions from the French housewife's party fare: **MARQUINETTE** and **BUCHÉ AUX MARRONS**.

For **MARQUINETTE** you will need:

4 oz ground almond
4 oz icing or sugar
4 oz grated chocolate
1 egg

Mixed together with the egg into a thick paste. Break off pieces the size of a walnut, and roll into balls in cocoa powder. Leave to cool in a cool place for an hour or so.

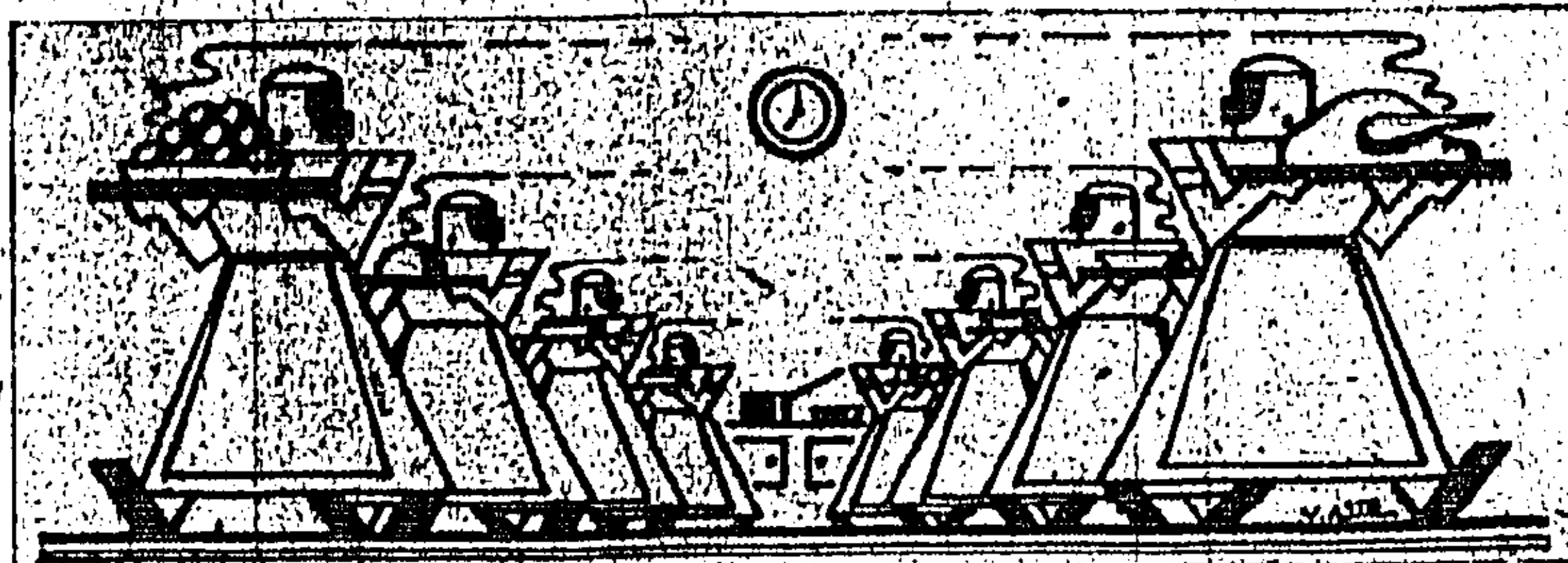
And for **BUCHÉ AUX MARRONS**:

1½ lbs chestnuts
4 oz sugar
4 oz chocolate
4 oz butter (or other fat)
Boil chestnuts, peel and sieve them. Melt butter, sugar and chocolate. Mix them together with a wooden spoon, adding the chestnuts. Place mixture on a large sheet of greaseproof paper, roll it up to look like a log. Leave to cool for a day. This recipe comes from the Lyons district. The Lyonsaise housewife decorates the log with grated nuts, marks it with a fork so that the outside resembles the bark, and serves it in slices.

DENMARK

To the Danish housewife, no Christmas dinner is complete without a goose prepared in the authentic way, and served with red cabbage and browned potatoes. Clean the goose well, and stuff generously with apples and prunes. Roast for two or three hours, according to size, leaving the oven door open for the last quarter-of-an-hour to allow the skin to get crisp. Prepare a thin toffee from margarine and sugar in a frying pan and put small boiled potatoes in, keeping turning until the toffee covers each potato. The red cabbage should be cooked, for about two hours, in a special mixture consisting of two ounces of margarine, one ounce of sugar, a tablespoon of vinegar

CHRISTMAS AT HOME



and one or two cupsful of fruit-juice.

For something a little different, a roasting of a meal, take another leaf from the Danish housewife's cookery book and try **CITRONFROM-AGE**. For six people you will need:

5 eggs
5 oz sugar
1½ lemons
leaves of gelatine
one cupful of water
whipped cream

SCOTLAND

Culinary expert from Scotland goes by the name, typical enough, of Scotch Mist. For this sweet, you will need:

1 doz. macaroons
½ doz. sponge fingers
pink and green colouring
½ pint cream
1 liqueur glass maraschino

Crush macaroons and fingers, moisten with maraschino, add half the cream and mix into a stiff paste. Whisk remainder with a little sugar and flavouring. Divide it, and colour one half pink, the other green. Put into a forcing bag a good tablespoonful of each colour, alternatively and place over pyramid. Decorate according to taste.

HOLLAND

"OLYKOEK" are a festive favourite with the Dutch. Make sufficient dough for two dozen sweet rolls (normal recipe, with yeast). Cut off small pieces of

light dough, and enclose brandied raisins or raisins and citron in centre of each, when shaping into small balls. Let them stand until light. Then, fry in hot deep fat (300°-370° F.) for about three minutes, drain and roll in powdered sugar while warm. Soak in rum and serve with whipped cream.

AMERICA

Nuts are always a welcome addition to the party table. Try **SPICED NUTS**, the American way. Take the following ingredients:

¼ lb nuts
1 cup fine granulated sugar
1 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon ginger
1 teaspoon nutmeg
1 tablespoon water
1 egg white

Sift sugar, salt and spices together three times. Add water to egg white and beat slightly. Dip nuts in egg white, then roll in sugar-spice mixture. Cover bottom of small baking pan with half of remaining sugar mixture, place nuts on top so that they do not touch each other, cover with remaining sugar mixture. Bake in very slow oven (250° F.) for about 2 hours. Remove from oven and shake excess sugar from nuts.

GERMANY

Here are recipes for two cakes which the German housewife traditionally bakes for Christmas:



—and now for a drink

EVERYONE drinks a Christmas toast. And practically everyone drinks more than a single toast at Christmas time. This is the season of "cork-popping", and time when there are so many feverish searches for the cork-screw, the occasion when families toast families across continents, across the world. The season of good cheer.

The modern cocktail habit before dinner and lunch has survived, and is here to stay. The reason is that appetising, but not dangerous, cocktails are now the most popular. Here is one, but do not judge it too harshly by its name. It is the "Blue Devil" cocktail, and nobody need fear it:

50% dry gin.
25% lime juice.
25% maraschino, and one dash of blue vegetable extract. Shake well and strain into the cocktail glass.

Lime juice guards against any possible ill effects, helps the digestion, and gives protection with its alkaline salts against indigestion. Lime juice contains Vitamins A, B and C.

At some stage of the festivities you will need to serve a punch or a fruit cup. Recipe for a Tropical Punch is as follows:

2 wineglasses rum
a few "petals" of thin lemon rind
1 wineglass syrup
½ pint crushed ice
a little grated nutmeg.

To make syrup: take ¼ pint water, ½ lb lump sugar (or smaller quantities if desired) and flavouring essence. Dissolve sugar in water, bring to boil when dissolved, simmer for four minutes. Shake all above ingredients together and serve at once.

If you prefer a non-alcoholic drink, try Snow Cocktail.

½ pint strained orange juice
½ pint strained grapefruit juice
heaped tablespoon sugar
pink water crushed ice

1 large tumbler crushed ice
1 unshaken egg white.
Dissolve sugar in water, bring to boil, simmer for five minutes. Chill. Add fruit juices, place in a screw top jar with ice and egg whites, and shake well for five minutes. Serve.

CHRISTMAS STOLLEN CAKE:

500 grammes plain flour
2 dessertspoons baking powder
200 grammes sugar
2 eggs
1 teaspoon rum flavouring
1 teaspoon vanilla essence
4-6 drops almond essence
pinch grated nutmeg
pinch ground cloves
125 grammes butter (or fat)
50 grammes suet
125 grammes sultanas
125 grammes raisins
125 grammes almonds or kernels
40 grammes mixed peel
icing sugar
250 grammes white (dry) cheese

butter, for decoration.
Mix flour and baking powder and sieve on to a board. Make hole in centre, and put in sugar, eggs and flavourings. Mix into a dough. On top of dough place white cheese, butter cut into pieces, finely chopped sultanas, raisins, almonds and mixed nut peel. Mix to fine dough on board. Shape into a rectangle and turn one edge over to within one inch of other edge. Grease a tin and cover the grease either with flour or grease-proof paper. Put dough on this and bake for 70-80 minutes in medium oven. When cooked, paint with melted butter and decorate with icing sugar. Eat as cake or current loaf.

TIFFIN PEPPER CAKE:

275 grammes of dark treacle
125 grammes of sugar
2 tablespoons lard
1 teaspoon ground cloves
pinch of ground ginger
pinch of white pepper
60 grammes mixed peel
1 teaspoon almond flavouring
lemon flavouring to taste
500 grammes plain flour
1 dessertspoon baking powder
6 tablespoons milk

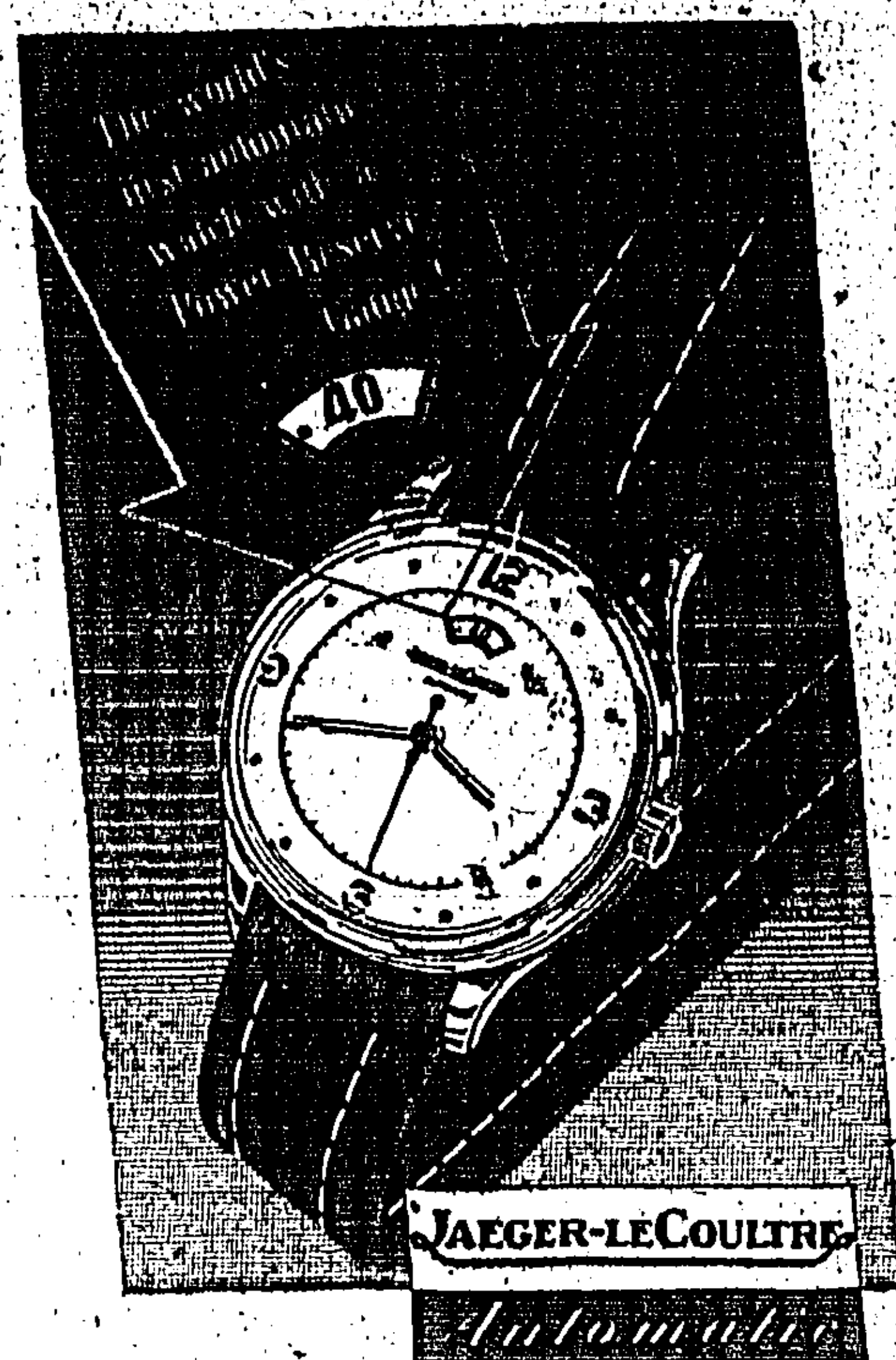
Put treacle, sugar and lard altogether and melt. When nearly cold stir in flavourings (cinnamon, cloves, ginger, pepper, almond, lemon). Stir in flour and baking powder alternatively with milk and mixed peel to make a dough. Spread dough on to a greased baking tin with tablespoon dipped in milk. Dough should be one inch thick. Mark into oblongs with knife—do not cut—and decorate with almonds. Bake for 20-25 minutes in medium oven. This cake may be iced.

Note: 500 grammes—approx 1 lb.

SWEDEN

What informal party table is complete without canapés? Try some of these Swedish suggestions, on small pieces of toast cut into different shapes. Shrimps and mayonnaise; caviar and leeks; ham, apple and cherries; liver pate, cucumber and olives; roasted veal, cucumber, meat-jelly and tomatoes. Decorate with parsley or dill.

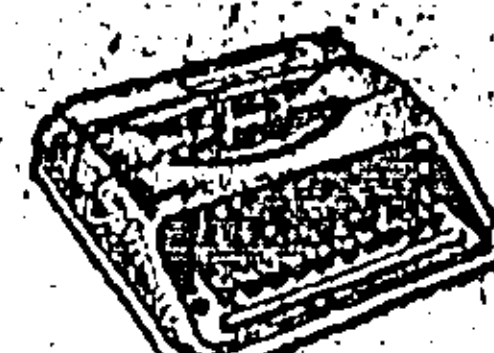
And don't forget the children. Try "Creole Bananas" for them. Peel bananas, divide lengthwise and cut each strip in half. Soak sections in a little rum or rum flavouring and water. Dip in thick batter, fry until golden brown, dredge with sugar to which a little vanilla powder has been added, and tie up with a few drops of rum and sugar.



And now the famous firm of Jaeger-LeCoultre have given the automatic watch its final touch of perfection: the Power Reserve Gauge. A special mechanism, continually records the degree of tension of the mainspring, and expresses this in terms of hours of reserve power in hand—on a dial in the watch-face. In this way Jaeger-LeCoultre (who are also the makers of the "Almos" automatic clock) have made yet another important advance in the science of horology. And this new feature has been added to all the other outstanding advantages of the Jaeger-LeCoultre automatic model, which is highly precise, watertight, shock-proof, anti-magnetic, and has the direct sweep-second hand.

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The Enchanted Mask

By LAURENCE MEYNELL

IT wanted exactly a week to Christmas. And the streets of Ironhampton looked like it.

Underfoot, snow trampled to slush; overhead, grey clouds with yet more snow in them; on every side brilliantly lit shop windows and hurrying crowds.

There wasn't a shop in the town to rival Bellamy's. In fact Bellamy's was the finest stores in the Midlands. Bellamy's was a household word. It sold everything, catered for everybody. It was three storeys high; it occupied the whole of one block. It employed six hundred assistants. It was vast. And it had all been built from nothing, from one tiny shop with a single bow window, by Jesse Bellamy himself.

"Old Bellamy" he was now universally called. At seventy-six he was still as vigorous as most young men; more hard-working than any of his employees; probably the richest man in Ironhampton. And in the considered opinion of that town "a miserable old so-and-so".

Old B, a widower, crabbed and ruthless, judged people and things by one yardstick only—was there any profit to be made out of them?

Naturally, therefore, that was his attitude to Christmas. The whole thing was flappodoodle and flummery of the most stupid sort. But it paid.

You could make people sentimental over it; and when people were sentimental they would spend money. The suckers! At Christmas it was even policy (although it hurt) to give some things away free. From that you derived credit, and valuable publicity. You might, if you were astute enough, in time derive a title; and was why a week before Christmas each year the eighty-seven children of the Princess Valena's Orphanage were invited to open the Grand Toy Bazaar in the basement; were admitted free; and were each given a toy by Father Christmas.

The local press was also, of course, invited; and much free publicity was gained for Bellamy's Stores.

The children were due to come at two-thirty; and at two-thirty Old B. found himself in a fix.

The day had been trying enough already; a wave of winter flu had hit Ironhampton and just when they needed every available assistant the stores had about a quarter of the staff away ill.

This caused endless worries and complications all of which Old B., foolishly, but that was his way, attempted to deal with himself.

By two o'clock it looked as though he was beginning to get clear of the worst of his troubles; by two-thirty he struck another snag.

The man who was to have "played" Father Christmas in the Grotto, the man who had played the part for the past five years, who was incomparably good at it, couldn't do it.

"Dead drunk, Mr. Bellamy."

Old B. was genuinely shocked. Christmas wasn't the time for getting drunk; but for making money.

"Who else is there?" he demanded.

A despairing gesture answered him. Who could there be? Who could be spared? Twenty-five percent of the staff were away already and the Christmas rush was on.

Mr. Todd of the Stationery, someone tentatively suggested.

"Couldn't spare him."

"Mr. Blake of the Turnery."

"He'd make a mess of it."

"I'll do it myself," Mr. Bellamy announced.

He had always held it as a principle, and frequently announced, that there wasn't a job in the Stores he couldn't do at least as well as anybody else; and now he would prove it.

"I'll do it myself."

Comic disaster was only just hidden from the attendant faces.

Old man B. as Father Christmas, that really was something to laugh about!

"How much do we pay this fool who has got drunk?"

"Four guineas for the afternoon, Mr. Bellamy, plus his tea when it's over."

"We shall save four guineas then, and that's nothing!"

The eighty-seven children were already assembled in the basement hardly able to contain their excitement.

"Where's the stuff?" Mr. Bellamy enquired. "The clobber?"

"Here it is, Mr. Bellamy."

There it was indeed: red robe edged with white fur; red head-dress; gumbots sprinkled with glittering "frost"—and the mask.

"Dam torn! Look!" Mr. Bellamy growled, making fast the unhandy robe and reaching for the mask.

In its small way the mask was quite famous. No one was certain where it had come from, but that it was a masterpiece was certain. It did not represent the usual inane, red-checked grin; but was something much sweeter, kinder, more human.

Children loved it. Many of the Princess Valena's orphans had been to Bellamy's before, some more than once, and of all Father Christmases they had ever known, seen, or thought of, they liked this one far the best.

Mr. Bellamy slipped on the mask and peered awkwardly through the eye-slits. He examined the enormous sack full of toys that was dragged out and dumped beside him.

When he saw the quality of the toys that were to be given away free he suffered a spasm. In his young days nothing whatsoever was given away free.

"Come on," he said, "let 'em in. We're late already and I don't like that."

The Princess Valena orphans filed in, chattering excitement, queuing to await silence by the

mask and peered awkwardly through the eye-slits. He examined the enormous sack full of toys that was dragged out and dumped beside him.

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"Come on," he said, "let 'em in. We're late already and I don't like that."

"You don't say anything."

"Well, what ought I to say, then?"

"You ought to ask me what I want."

"What's wrong with the toy you've got? Don't you like it?"

"I love it. But you ought to have asked me. And you ought to have asked my name as well."

"If I like being at school and how old I am and what I'd be best in the whole wide world and I wanted to kiss you, which I don't." With which reproach Miss Five-and-a-Bit, clutching her newly acquired duck, passed serenely on.

Master Nearly-Six took her place and gazed up ecstatically at the benevolent figure in red and white.

"God Almighty, they believe in it," Mr. Bellamy told himself. "I suppose I did once—"

"Hullo, young man," Father Christmas said aloud and rather awkwardly. "What's your name?"

"Thomas—Assheton—Mandell—James."

"Good gracious."

"Everybody calls me Bim."

"Oh! Well, what would you like, Bim. Anything special?"

"A pistol—that fires six shots without reloading."

A good deal of fidgeting in the bag finally produced a pistol which very nearly came up to expectations.

"That do you, Bim?"

"It's marvellous. Thanks most awfully. It's wizard."

"Don't shoot too many people."

"Not if they're looking."

Father Christmas laughed. "A smart kid that," he thought. "Just the sort I could do with in the stores in time."

"And what about you, missie, what's your name?"

"Rose."

"Rose what? Anything else?"

"No, Just Rose."

"Well, Just-Rose, and what would you like best?"

Just-Rose was too overcome to say.

"How old are you?"

"I'll be nearly five soon, I think."

"Oh, do you? Got any dolls?"

"I've Topsy and Blackie; only Topsy's head has come off, and I've lost Blackie."

"Good gracious me, that's serious. We must see what we can do about that."

The sack, although it held plenty of dolls didn't seem to have one which quite fitted the seriousness of the case. Not to Old Bellamy's satisfaction, any way. But on a shelf hardly sat a most engaging doll capable of shutting her eyes, opening her mouth, moving her hands and even of emitting a squeak.

Mr. Bellamy determinedly ignored the price label only too prominently attached to it and held out the delectable doll for Just-Rose.

"How about this?" he enquired.

Just-Rose's small fat arms opened in delirious welcome, her small solemn eyes grew round with inexpressible delight.

Old Bellamy caught sight of the price tag again and thought: "I must be going crackers... next please."

But Just-Rose had not moved. She stood with her small fat face upturned, her eyes closed, her lips pursed expectantly.

"Well, if she really likes to kiss a mask I suppose she had better!" Old Bellamy thought, and bent down his head.

After that it became progressively easier; much easier.

Mr. Bellamy discovered that he enjoyed talking to children; that he had made a grave mistake all his life in asserting that they

should be seen and not heard; that what they said, and more especially the solemnity with which they said it, was diverting and refreshing.

He found that it came quite naturally, to bend down to let them kiss the face of Father Christmas.

They expected it; and he did it, and that's all there was to it. Except that it was rather nice.

The quality of the toys in the sack didn't seem as high as it had been, somehow; and Mr. Bellamy found it necessary on several occasions to give not one but two toys away to a particularly endearing Seven-and-a-Bit or a Just-exactly-Eight.

He railed the shelf at his side again and again to meet special cases and made impatient gestures to attendant staff to replenish it.

Anxiously he viewed the only too rapidly diminishing crowd of children, realising with alarm that they would soon all be finished.

It was then that Miss Fletcher of the Small Fancy Goods came down to the basement to see how things were going on.

This visit to see the kiddies (as she called them) at the Grotto was a treat which Miss Fletcher allowed herself annually.

The Small Fancy Goods Dept. was tucked away in a remote corner of the store and Miss Fletcher had heard nothing of the last minute change in Father Christmas.

She arrived and took up her stance behind the Figure, with the Benevolent Mask....

Through his eye-slits Mr. Bellamy saw her and recognised her; he wondered how she imagined Small Fancy Goods would get on in her absence.

Miss Fletcher was just in time to see Father Christmas hand out two separate squeaking monkeys to a cherub-faced infant who apparently had a passion for squeaking monkeys.

Miss Fletcher laughed.

"If Old Miser-bags Bellamy saw you do that," she said, "He'd have a fit!"

There was a momentary lull in the children coming forward and Mr. Bellamy thought he had earned a respite. He also thought that Miss Fletcher needed reproof and correction.

He slipped off the mask and confronted her saying, as grimly as he could: "Would he?"

And it didn't work!

Miss Fletcher didn't quail, blush, stammer, or appear in any way put out. She simply stared at him as though she didn't know him.

"Well," he demanded at length. "Don't you recognise me?"

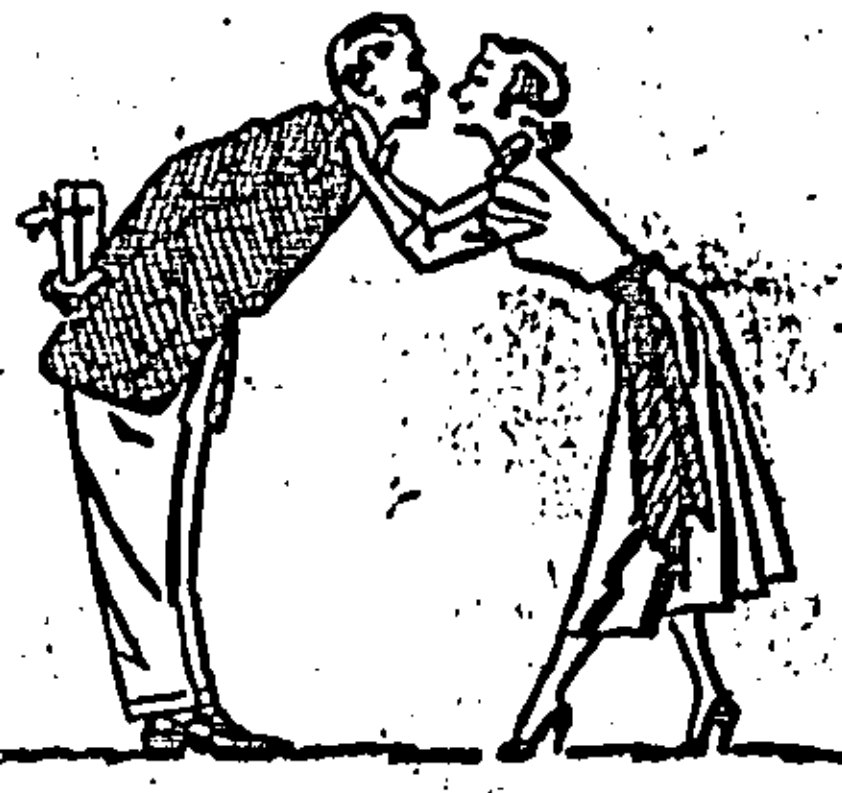
Miss Fletcher shook her head. "Recognise you? Why should I?"

Behind her on the wall was a full length mirror. Mr. Bellamy brushed her aside and went up to it.

He didn't recognise himself.

He was still wearing the Mask at any rate his face was hard and sour and sad, no longer, but jovial and happy and benevolent.

And it stayed that way for the rest of his life.



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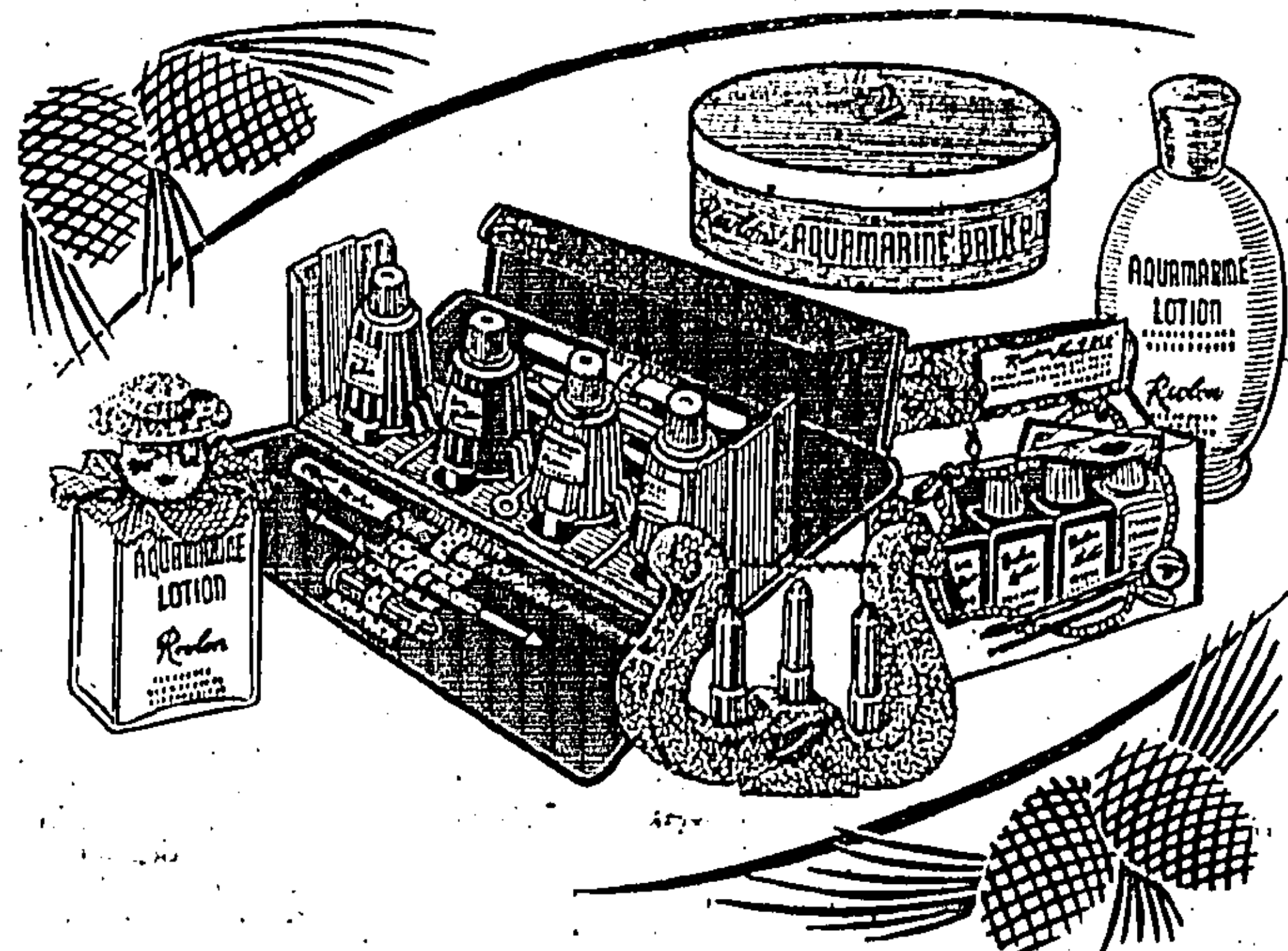
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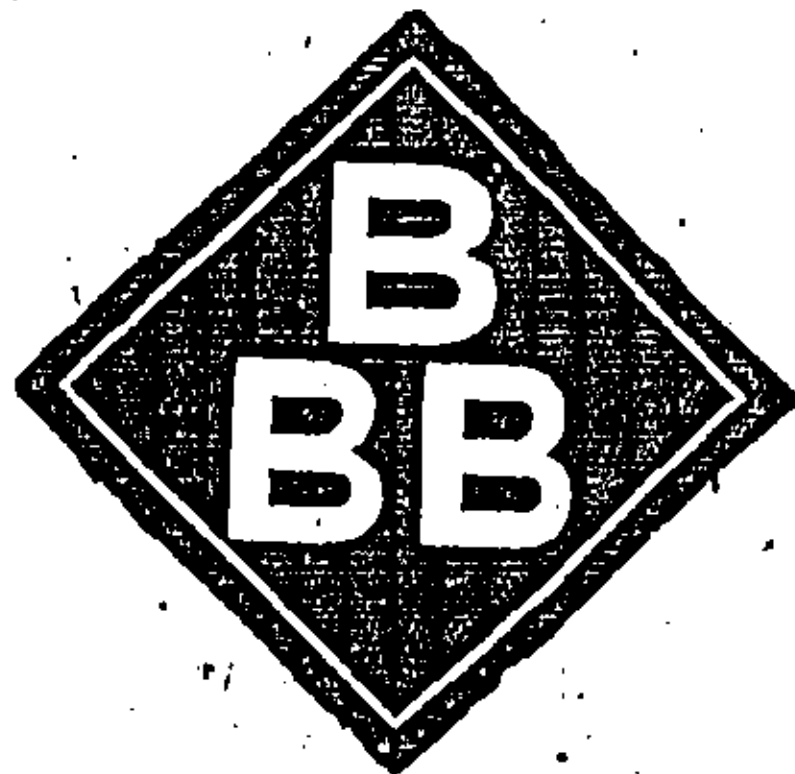
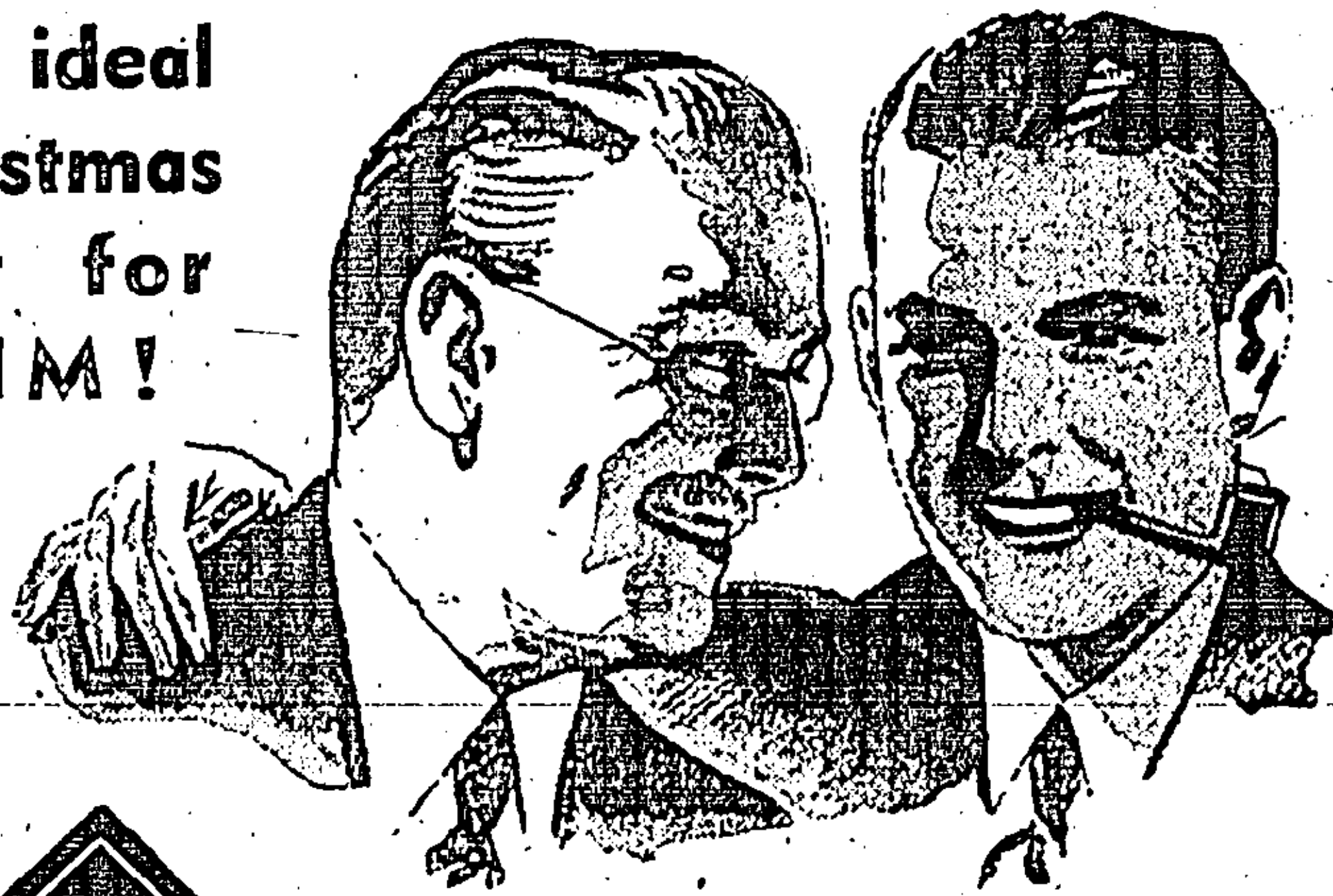
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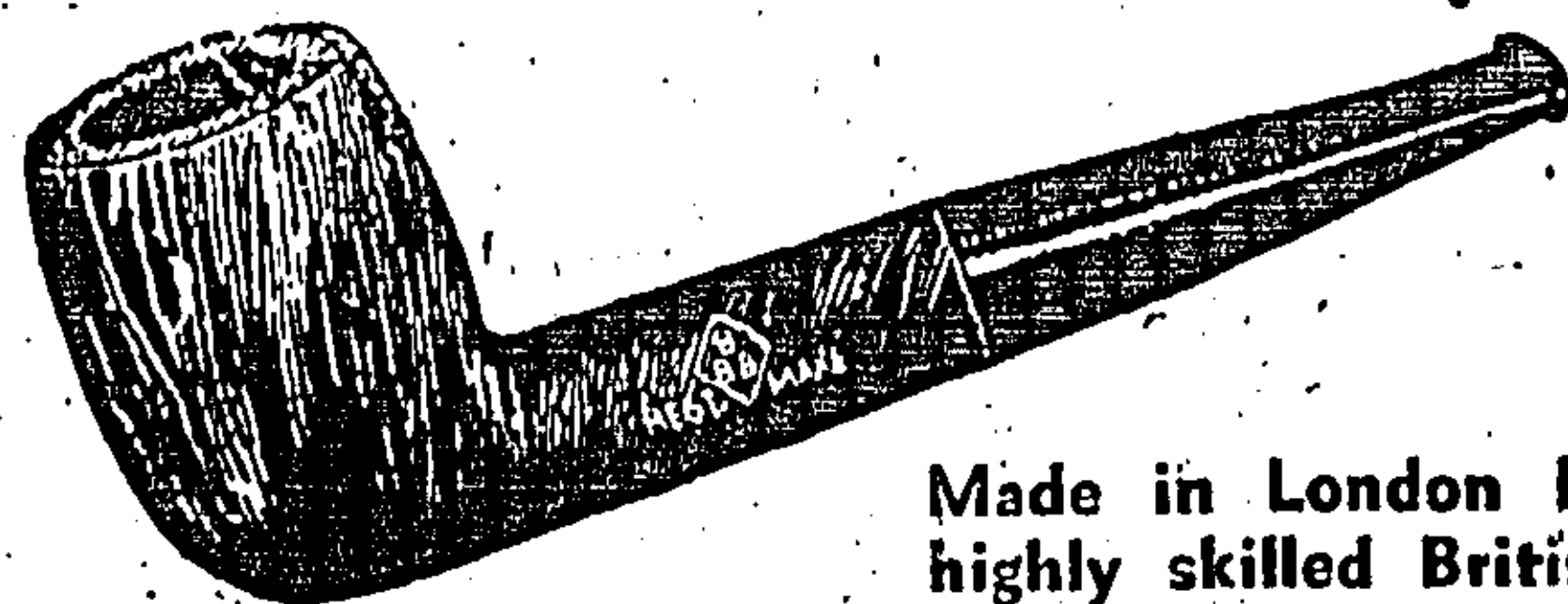
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— CHRISTMAS QUIZ —

How's Your Table Talk?

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. What countries use the following coins:— Drachma, rouble, lira, rial? (4 marks).
2. For what do the following initials stand:— N. A. T. O., U.S.S.R., M.S.A., U.N.E.S.C.O.? (4 marks).
3. With which countries would you associate principally the following:—Robert A. Taft, Dudley Senanayake, Konrad Adenauer, Robert Schuman? (4 marks).
4. Which four of the countries are members of the United Nations:—Italy, Burma, Finland, Iceland, Iran, Irish Republic, Spain, South Africa? (4 marks).
5. Which four of the countries support a monarchy:—Sweden, Rumania, Portugal, Denmark, Albania, Libya, Norway? (4 marks).

TOTAL: 20.

SCIENCE

1. With what inventions or discoveries are the following principally associated:—J. L. Baird, Alexander Fleming, Alexander Bell, William Caxton? (4 marks).
2. By what name are the following alloys better known:—Copper and zinc, tin and lead, copper and tin, iridium and osmium? (4 marks).
3. What are:—A viscometer, a barometer, an anemometer, a calorimeter? (4 marks).
4. Which four of the following are planets:—Taurus, Venus, Pegasus, Uranus, Scorpio, Orion, Pluto, Neptune? (4 marks).
5. If you were given this dish for dinner, what would you be eating:—Sodium chloride, plasm salivum, pleuronectes platea, solanum tuberosum? (4 marks).

TOTAL: 20.

HISTORY

1. In what modern countries are the sites of these battles:—Gettysburg, Flazny, Rorke's Drift, Waterloo? (4 marks).
2. Who was known as:—Old Rowley, the Old Pretender, the Iron Duke, the Iron Chancellor? (4 marks).
3. What nationally were the following:—Garibaldi, Kruger, Hannibal, Peter the Great? (4 marks).
4. What sovereign of the British Throne:—(a) ruled longest? (b) ruled shortest? (c) locked his wife out of Westminster Abbey at his Coronation? (d) was the last to lead his troops in battle? (4 marks).

Can you hold your own in conversation? To talk fearlessly in the most distinguished company, one needs a wide knowledge of many subjects. If you answer the following questions, you should know roughly what you are like as a conversationalist. Each question in each of the six sections needs four answers—take one mark for each answer correctly given. Total for each section is 20. Grand total, 120. At the end of the answers you will find a means of estimating your conversational powers from the number of marks you get. The answers appear on Page 22 of this paper.

5. Name four Prime Ministers from the politicians:—Lord North, Lord Randolph Churchill, Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Wellington, Oliver Cromwell, Sir Austen Chamberlain, Sir Robert Peel, Charles James Fox. (4 marks).

TOTAL: 20.

SPORT

1. With what sports do you principally associate the following:—(a) Davis Cup, Ryder Cup, Melbourne Cup, Lonsdale Belt? (4 marks) (b) Pitcher, Puck, Follow-on, Chukker? (4 marks) (c) Twickenham, St. Andrew, Trent Bridge, Henley? (4 marks) (d) Steve Donaghue, Pavo Nurmi, Gene Tunney, Suzanne Lengier? (4 marks).
2. Which four of the following countries won more than 4 Gold Medals at the recent Olympic Games:—Belgium, Russia, Sweden, New Zealand, Great Britain, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Germany.

TOTAL: 20.

THE ARTS

1. Who wrote:—The School for Scandal, Agamemnon, Jane Eyre, Huckleberry Finn? (4 marks).
2. Who created the following characters:—Mrs. Bardell, D'Aragona, Professor Moriarty, Ophelia? (4 marks).
3. Who composed the symphonies known as:—New World, Unfinished, Eroica, Clock? (4 marks).
4. Which four of these are alive today:—Silbells, George

Gershwin, Matisse, Walter de la Mare, Hugh Walpole, Dame Lavinia Knight, Edward Gorman, Van Gogh? (4 marks).

5. By whom were these masterpieces created:—The Mona Lisa, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Magic Flute, the Odyssey? (4 marks).

TOTAL: 20.

BY-WAYS

1. In conversation how would you address:—A Duke, an Ambassador, a Bishop, the President of the United States? (4 marks).
2. If you ordered this dinner from the menu, what would you expect to be given:—Pelage aux chmougnens, Hémard Thermidor, Canard rot, Baked Alaska? (4 marks).
3. What is the meaning of the following financial terms:—Account Payee Only, Mortgage, Bonus Shares, a bull? (4 marks).
4. For what occupations are these people well-known:—Jacques Fath, Betty Hutton, Eric Shipton, John Cobb? (4 marks).
5. What is the meaning of the following words:—Intelligible, illegible, intelligible, illegible? (4 marks).

TOTAL: 20.

POCKET CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



"May I remind you, Miss Runcorn, that this year we are going to take 'Adverse Fidelity' quite straight!"

MONACO WANTS PRINCE TO MARRY

From JOAN HARRISON

Paris. THE tiny Principality of Monaco—land of Monte Carlo, the world's most famous gambling centre—wants its prince, ruler of 8,500 citizens, to wed.

And for all its pocket size, the parliament (or national town council of Monaco) takes this very seriously indeed.

At a recent meeting the council passed a recommendation that their ruler, 29-year-old Prince Rainier III, should seriously consider marriage in order to assure the succession.

As the Prince has been very friendly indeed for the past five years with a beautiful French film actress, Gisèle Pascal, rumour had it that she might one day become Princess Gisèle.

Then the privy council of the Prince took a hand. They are alleged to have met together privately and advised Prince Rainier that, whilst they wanted him to marry, they would not favour a marriage with the French film star.

Asked to confirm this, M. Charles Hellerdo de Castro, president of the privy council, admitted: "Isconically, the situation is a very delicate one." But he would make no further comment.

The lovely Gisèle Pascal, when she is not filming, lives quietly in a luxury villa, at St Jean Cap Ferrat, half an hour's car drive from Monaco.

Should Prince Rainier not wed, succession would pass to the eldest son of his sister, Princess Antonette, who is married to a commoner.

She was married quietly last year, in a registry office in Genoa, to international tennis player Alec Noyes, who had obtained a divorce from his first wife a little while before. He has a family of three children.

It will be no precedent in the reigning house of Monaco should Prince Rainier marry a film star—his grandfather Prince Louis II also married an actress. She was his second wife and is now the widowed Princess Ghislaine.

Thousands Of Pipers An' A'

By J. W. TAYLOR

TODAY the bagpipes are enjoying a wave of popularity the world over that is greater than ever. The Scottish College of Piping is branching out on its latest venture of having classes in Rothesay. In Edinburgh it is to train boys between 12 and 14 who have no previous knowledge, whilst at the College Headquarters in Glasgow there are 180 pupils in various stages of training.

Séamus Macneil, the joint Principal of the College, has been to Dublin to give the Irish College the benefit of his experience in Scotland. In Aberdeen there is a school of piping organised by ex-Gordon Pipe-Major A. Dickie and now in its second season.

There was a time when anyone possessing bagpipes in Britain risked death. In 1745 the British Government branded the pipes as an instrument of war and made the offence of possession of them punishable by death. The pipes were not always in favour in Scotland, where at one time the Church regarded them as instruments of

the devil and clergy went round from cottage to cottage in some parts breaking and burning pipes wherever they found them.

But all the world over the bagpipes stir the blood of all Scotsmen. They have helped Scottish regiments to record some of the most gallant episodes in military history. Again, there are instances on record where the playing of the bagpipes has stilled the anger of warring Scotsmen. In two World Wars the German Army was firmly convinced that the bagpipe was as indispensable and as valuable to a Scottish regiment as any weapon of warfare.

Before the last war pipe-playing in England was restricted mainly to Lancashire, Northumberland, London, Caledonian societies, and in Lincolnshire. In Lincoln Cathedral there is a picture of a man with a cat under his arm, and he is biting its tail. This is supposed to represent both the look and the sound of the pipes.

Whilst to some, the bagpipes cause annoyance, it is looked upon as a medical fact that the ears of the listeners are less likely to be damaged than the ears of the player. Some players are known to suffer from ear trouble and affections of the chest.

Gradually, however, the quaint, plaintive plea of the bag pipe has impressed more and more people, and all over England there are teaching agencies, with a great proportion of the instruments being made in London by an English family with no Scottish connections.

Today the sound of the bagpipe may be heard in almost all parts of the world, including the lush playing of the glamorous girl pipers from Iowa University in America.

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The SNAPSHOT GUILD



A picture such as this is grand for a personal photographic Christmas greeting—easy to make yourself with a negative printing mask and a contact printer.

Making Your Own Christmas Greetings

SEVERAL readers have asked for more information regarding photographic Christmas cards—readers who have darkroom facilities and plan to make cards from their own negatives rather than have their photographer make greeting cards for them.

Unless these readers simply plan to slip their pictures into Christmas folders, they probably will want to use negative printing masks. "Masks" of this sort are simply negatives which carry an appropriate Christmas message and design and have a hole cut in them in which a picture negative fits. They can be purchased from your photo dealer in a choice of designs and produce a greeting card on which your picture appears alongside or above a message neatly lettered in black.

To make a card of this sort first select the picture you desire to use, and then get a

mask which fits the negative of the desired picture. You should have no difficulty in this as masks come in a number of sizes. Then place the mask on your contact printer and place your negative over the opening in the mask. In printing, print both negatives at the same time.

Double weight deckle edged photographic paper is recommended for cards of this sort and envelopes to match are available. To aid you in centering your picture and greeting on the card the masks are equipped with guides pasted at one corner. All you need to do is be sure that the paper fits snug against the prepared guides.

Actually, there's little more work to producing a pleasant and personal pictorial greeting in this manner than there is in making any contact print. And, if you have a printer or printing frame, it affords you the added pleasure of making the cards yourself. If not, your photographer's ready to do it for you.

—John van Guildor.

AUGUSTUS—The man who came to dinner and that fabulous woman—TALLULAH

By GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON

THE YEARS WITH MOTHER. By Augustus Hare. Edited by Malcolm Barnes. Allen and Unwin. 25s. 310 pages.

"A DAPPER little man with narrow aquiline nose and beady penetrating eyes and an extraordinary gift for telling stories, all of which seemed to have happened to members of his family."

The worst sailor of the nineteenth century; every time he crossed the Channel he had himself chloroformed.

Author of guide-books and biographies, who claimed that he had never had a favourable review in his life.

Cousin (although not first cousin) to three earls.

Augustus Hare, who was all of these things, would not have doubted that the last was the most important. He was born

(1834) to a well-connected family, impoverished by extravagance and was adopted by his aunt, a widow named Maria Hare.

Augustus was brought up to be a Christian, a gentleman, and, if possible (there was a rich living in the family), a clergyman, by his adoptive mother and her brother-in-law, Julius Hare, a parson.

Flogged along the thorny path of self-denial, Augustus might have been a prig, but turned out to be a snob. He declined to enter the Church and leapt with joy at an offer from John Murray, the publisher, to write a Handbook to Berks, Bucks and Oxfordshire. It was the first of a series which enabled him to travel about the country and stay with people of title.

Augustus had found his métier. He entertained his hosts by telling ghost stories, an art he brought to an elaborate pitch of perfection.

Augustus caught the great houses and their occupants at the close of their golden age of wealth and eccentricity. At Alnwick Castle, bridge stopped at ten, so that the Duke (of

Northumberland) could read prayers. At Belvoir, trumpets sounded the hour for dressing, and watchmen called the hours of night. At Hamilton Palace, he saw the mausoleum from which, on the Day of Judgment, 12 dukes of Hamilton would rise.

In Durham he met a dean who attributed the decline of England to pale sherry and crinolines. In Exeter, he dined with a bishop who had excommunicated an archbishop of Canterbury.

His readers may have wondered at times whether his noble hosts were pulling his leg. Lady Ruthven startled him by walking in and out of the back ante-chambers at Winton House.

Playing a concertina and wearing a tiara of turquoise and pearls, "A very odd effect in the half-light," said Augustus mildly.

More remarkable still was the conduct of Mrs. Grote, wife of an eminent historian "who sat aloft in a tree dressed in a coachman's brown overcoat, playing on the violin fello." He heard Wilde, "poor dear foolish boy," say, "I picked a primrose in the wood yesterday and it was so ill I have been sitting up all night with it." He recorded the occasion on which Gladstone defended Cardinal Manning who had been called "false and fickle" by a lady he jilted as a curate. "False," thundered Gladstone, "but never fickle."

As old age overtook him Augustus was asked out to dine less frequently. Society, as he defined it ("when people were never in a hurry to be changing, a new generation of duchesses had grown up who were bored by ghost stories. He remained a bachelor; founded a hospice for broken-down governesses and adopted a series of young men, most of whom disappointed him sadly. He was thought to paint his face, after the custom of a bygone age. Died 1903.

Towards the end of his life, he published his autobiography in six volumes and 800,000 words, and was undismayed by the bitterly hostile reception it received from the Press. Mr. Barnes has condensed the first three volumes into one. It takes the story down to the year 1870. Mr. Barnes has dug a most readable book out of the vast heaps of rubbish left by Augustus. The odd Victorian will be read in future more than he has been in the past.

TALLULAH: My autobiography. By Tallulah Bankhead. Gollancz. 16s. 288 pages.

BEING an instinctive actress and natural exhibitionist, Miss Bankhead has nothing to tell about her art. It is the one subject in life on which she is notably discreet.

Follow the first steps in dramatic art; early brushes with culture; "I was a sponge for Shakespeare's poetry"; the beauty reduced me to rubble... I had my Ernest Dowson moments too. And my Madame Bovary phase. I was a sucker for Rupert Brooke. I ran a temperature over "Beauclaire" for the fever has affected Miss Bankhead's spelling.

In the same "crackling, high-blood-pressure prose, she recalls the struggle for recognition on the stage, a searing experience: "My temples throbbled... I was stabbed with an amalgam of pain and promise" until the fettered at his first suggestion... I was almost strangled by my words."

The phrases (from two consecutive pages) may seem over-emphatic; there is excuse for them. John Barrymore has offered her a part and, simultaneously, tried to seduce her.

Fame comes in New York; greater fame in London. It is based on beauty, temperament, talent and a reputation for exuberant living. She liked drink, gambling; frequently fell in love. She tried port, "this isn't a drink, it's only wine." Pretended to take cocaine.

At a New York party she distracted the guests with cartwheels and monologues; was eventually lured outside. Miss Dorothy Parker, the wit (in the humble role of hostess), said sweetly, "Oh, has Whistler's mother gone?"

In London, she turned cartwheels down the middle of Piccadilly—but it was three o'clock in the morning and she was in the company of Prince Nicholas of Rumania. Denies that she "sloshed" Gladys Cooper with a beer bottle—that, she says, was Francis Laking, who died, leaving Tallulah all his cars, only he had no care. Met the flower of the British aristocracy—and mis-spells the names of many of them.

In 1931, when Miss Bankhead left England, some sprig left London with her, but a few days was dawdling less hospitable to personalities so flamboyant. A day came—the day of Dunkirk—when Miss Bankhead prayed on her knees, drank three glasses of champagne, gin and brandy, and announced that she was "on the wagon" until the British got back to Dunkirk. For a time the candle would burn at only one end.

Buy Junior A Book!

SUE DAWSON goes round the bookshops

ONLY three more shopping days until Father Christmas is scheduled for his annual drop down the chimney, though in Hongkong, where there is a scarcity of fireplaces, he has been known to surreptitiously climb through a window.

Now is the time when harassed parents—being responsible for what this bearded visitor delivers—enter the Great Panic Zone where last minute shopping is concerned, and it should help them to know that Hongkong's bookshops have the finest collection of children's

books that they have ever had. Publishers are more child-conscious these days, and practically all the books—old favourites and new ones—are illustrated in colours, printed attractively and reasonably priced.

A round of the bookshops revealed that Beatrix Potter is more than holding her own with all the newer children's authors, and that the Winnie The Pooh books, Strawberry Shortcake and Alice in Wonderland are in greater supply than ever. There are the Wonder Books, with fourteen different titles, the Prince Charming Series and the Golden picture books as well as the excellent series of Illustrated Classics published by Dent. For the 9 to 12s there is Arthur Hansome, "We didn't mean to do it," and on Dr. Deolitt, the Diggins Books and a Treasure book, new this year. Generations of young hooligans have lapped up "Just William" and all the other mischief that Richmal Crompton has designed for William and his friends in a series of more than twenty books.

For tots and young children there is the Baby Wonder series with washable covers, the innumerable rag books, the Panorma Peepshows that are small to carry about and big when opened up, the Ray books the Big Little books and the Mary Moore series. Another series here for the first time this year is the Bokans one, with pictures that unfold ingeniously and stand up. There are also fairy stories, nursery rhymes, Christmas stories, the ever popular Enid Blyton tales and of course the usual omnibuses and annuals.

Older children—13 and up—will enjoy Paul Gallico's lovely story of a cat—Jennie, and The Snowflake, while the book of the late King George IV, "A Pictorial Record of His Great Life," obtainable at the South China Morning Post, would make a wonderful present for any one. From the Morning Post too comes the Daily Express Garden Book with six packets of seeds; and the 1952 Rupert Annual, with the China Mail's little bear in many new adventures. Among the thousands of books written for young teenagers, Mary O'Hara's tales of the horse "Wilkie" who she has very recently added a new one, and Enid Bagnold's famous "National Velvet" are some that would earn a respected place on their shelves.

Parents of young children are apt to say, "Buy him a book? But he's so dull. I'm sure he'd much rather have a toy." But Junior may not be so sure, and still less if he knows what is in store for him in these books printed in the easy-to-read, gay and colourful way which publishers have found "boys" like with the coming generation. For a parent must remember too that reading, like all invaluable habits, should be acquired young.

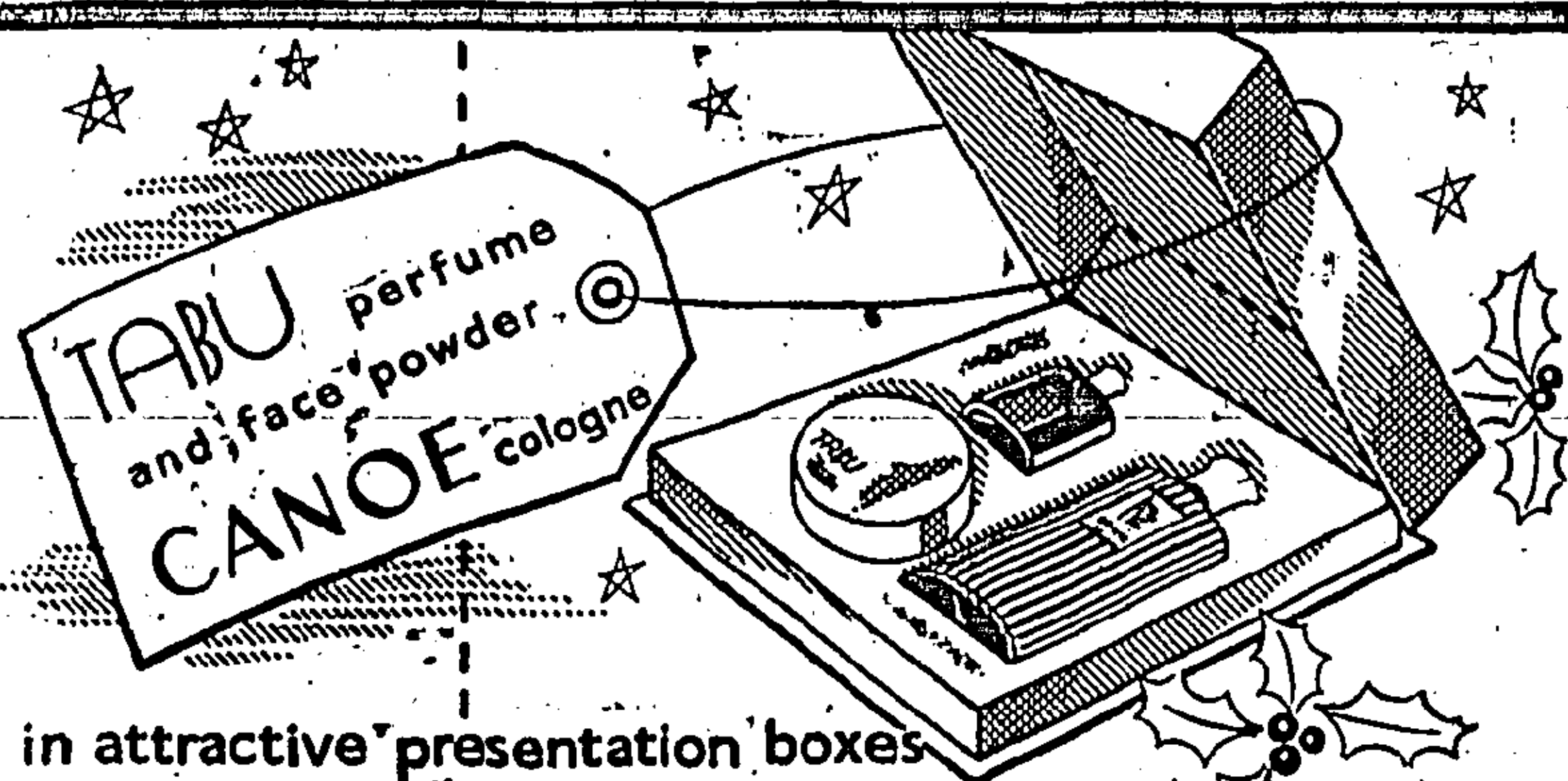
VIGNETTES OF LIFE

Merry Christmas!

By KEMP STARRETT



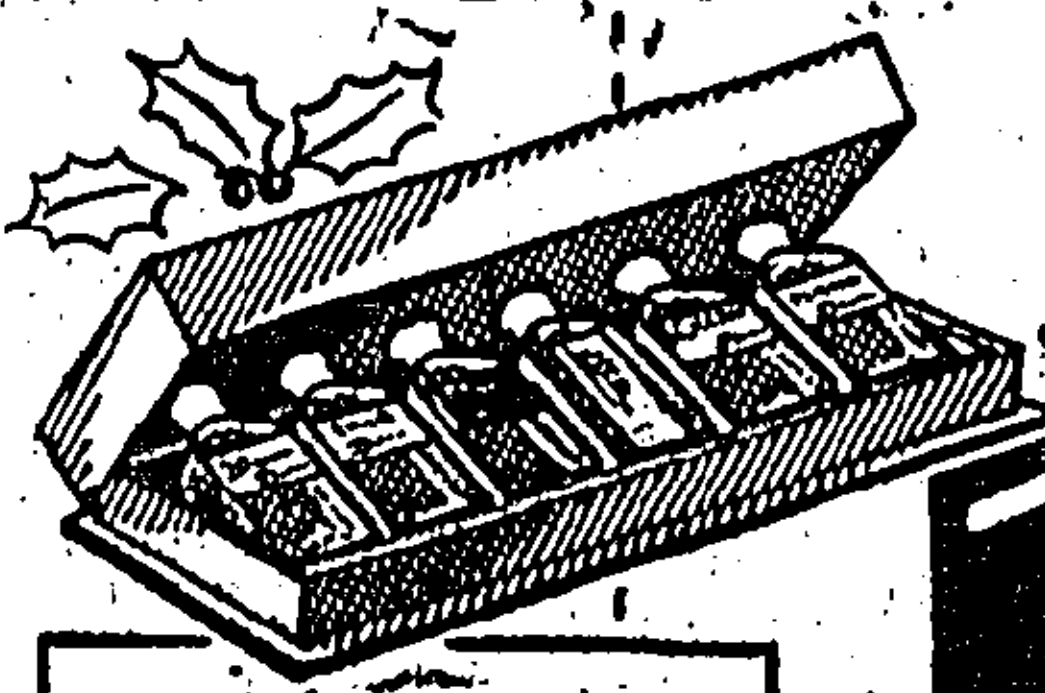
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Billiards & Snooker

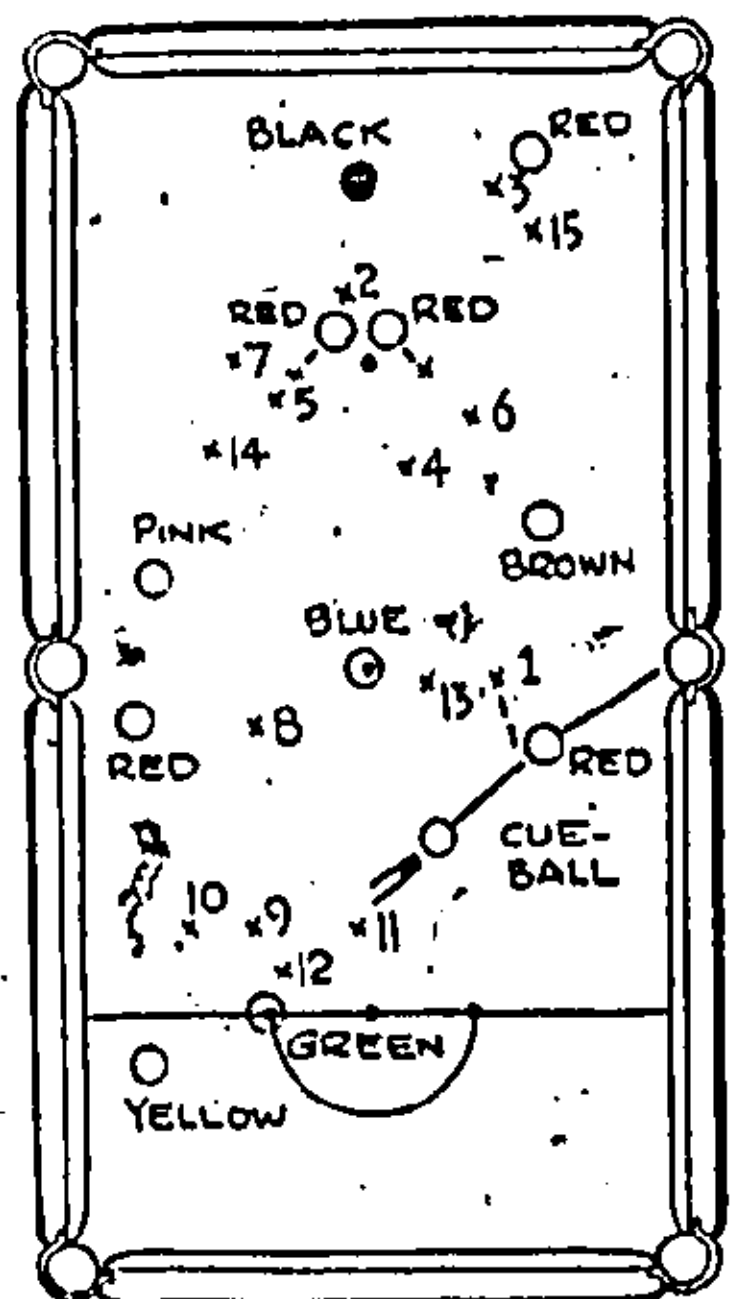
By HORACE LINDRUM

(World Professional Snooker Champion)

What is the first thing you do when you are keen to take up golf or tennis? You would take instruction, and try to assimilate everything your instructor told you. The reason I have begun in this tone is because I am often asked why so many players reach a certain standard at snooker and never get any further.

On many occasions I have noticed two and sometimes more players just knocking the balls about and enjoying the spirit of the game and one another's company. Most enthusiasts play the game as well as they know it, but how many really put a thinking cap on and study it as they would golf and other sports?

A billiards table is 12ft. by 6ft. 1 1/2 inches in size and all kinds of angles can be made for cue-ball control—either by plain striking or by the use of running-side, to bring about a sharp angle, or check side to narrow the angle.



In following my weekly diagrams you will gradually improve your knowledge of the game along these lines.

Taking last week's problem, my first stroke would be to take the red nearest to the cue-ball and pot it into the right-hand middle pocket. With the aid of a gentle follow-through stroke, this would leave my white ball in position marked X1, for a nice angle on the blue into the middle left-hand pocket.

When taking the blue I would give the cue-ball plenty of right-hand side and send it on to the top left-hand side cushion; it would then angle with a sharpish angle to make contact with the top cushion and find its target—the separation of the two reds clustered around the Pink Spot.

From position marked X2 on the diagram I would address the cue-ball underneath for potting the red resting over the top right-hand corner pocket, to screw back slightly for the black into position X3.

I now pot the black into the top left-hand corner pocket with a run-through delivery of the cue to bring the white ball off the top left-hand side cushion across the table to rest in position marked X4.

Once again I would address the cue-ball underneath and pot the red into the top left-hand corner pocket and leave myself

in a good position (X5) for the brown.

To play the brown and avoid my white coming to rest on the cushion I would continue to strike the cue-ball underneath and screw away slightly.

I am now in position marked X6 and to get on the red over the middle left-hand pocket I would play the red near the pink spot and follow through at the correct speed to leave a nice angle on the pink (X7) for the middle left-hand pocket.

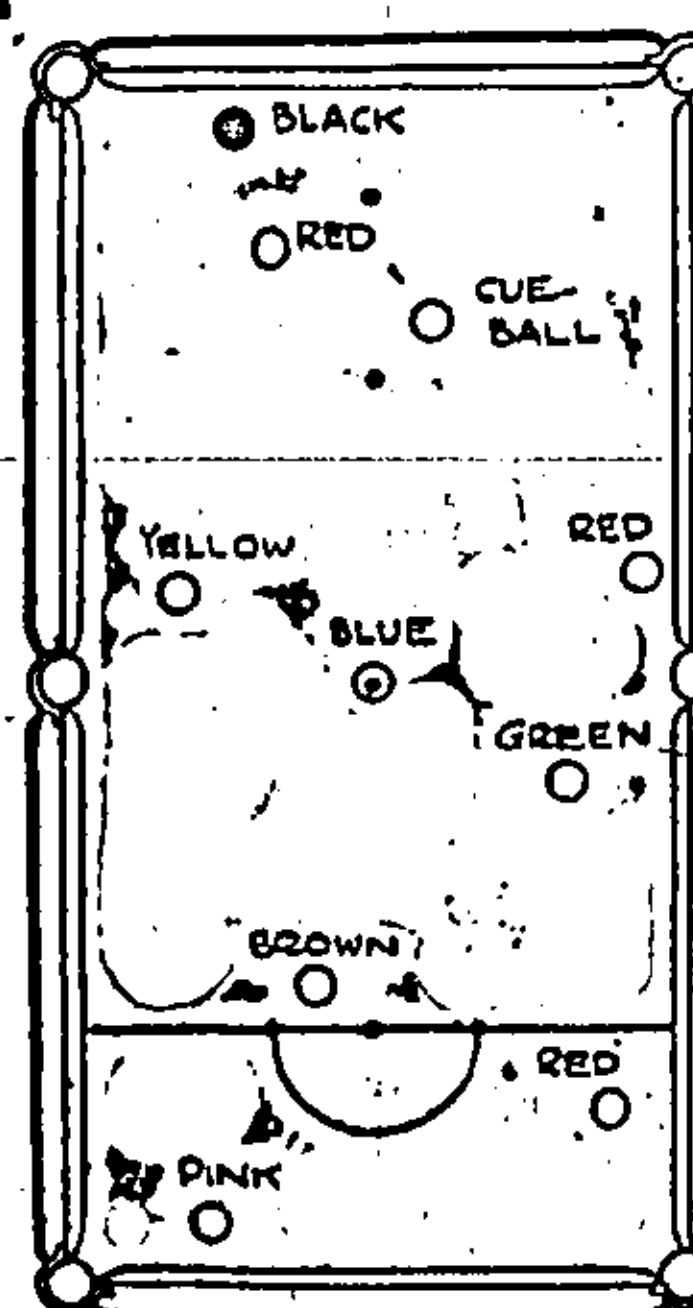
Playing the pink delicately—with top on my ball—would bring about a nice run-through position (X8) on the last red. I would then proceed to pot the last red with plenty of running side and bring my ball off the left side bank cushion to leave position for the brown to be potted into the bottom right-hand corner pocket.

In potting the brown from position X9 the screw shot would be required. It is executed by striking the cue-ball underneath, to come back into position (X10) for the yellow. My cue-ball would then be stunned with a little right-hand side and brought off the bottom left-hand side cushion across the table for the green to position X11.

Once again I would have to address the ball underneath and deliver with a sharp action to pot the green and bring my cue-ball to rest in position marked X12. From there I would pot the brown into the bottom right-hand corner pocket and slow screw the white ball on to the blue.

From X13 I would play the blue delicately into the left-hand middle pocket with the white ball running through for a nice position (X14) on the pink for it to be potted into the top right-hand corner pocket. A nice cue delivery and the striking of the cue-ball on the top would bring it into position X15 for taking the black into the top left-hand corner pocket.

You To Play Until Next Week



For practising angle and speed place the balls on the table as illustrated in this diagram. What would you do in planning to clear the table? (Next week Horace Lindrum will demonstrate what he would do).

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League Cricket

Chance For Craigengower To Turn The Tables This Afternoon

By "THE ZOMBIE"

Although no Cricket League fixtures are scheduled for this afternoon, a number of clubs are taking the opportunity of playing off their postponed fixtures.

At least two First Division and one Second Division matches will be played.

Virtual leaders of the Senior League, the Scorpions will be the guests of Craigengower Cricket Club at Happy Valley and, although the favoured side, they may have to fight all the way through for their win as they had to last week.

Despite the fact that they ran up a huge total of 216 runs for five wickets declared, the

Scorpions last Saturday found the Valley Club in grand fighting mood.

Then if George Souza had not been so hasty and had stayed to see another 50 runs up, the finish might have been much closer and might have been in favour of the Valley club.

The return meeting between them this afternoon should therefore be an interesting affair, and in a one-afternoon match, where a strong batting side always has the advantage.

If Craigengower win the toss, the Champion "Scorpions" may yet meet with a shock if they do not reach the 180 mark on first lease of the wicket.

In the other First Division match, Reccelo, fresh from their brilliant victory over Kowloon Cricket Club last week, will be at home to the Indian Recreation Club.

A succession of defeats and a change of captaincy in the middle of the season have lowered the morale of the Indian team during the last few weeks.

They have a fairly well-balanced side, and can be a hard team to beat if only they shake off their lethargy and make a real go at it. A good stand by Kitchell or Abbas will be of great value to the team.

TODAY'S MATCHES

First Division

CCC v Scorpions
Reccelo v IRC

Second Division

DBS v Reccelo.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Facts About Squaws

Sir,—"Keystone" in his column on the Ladies' Softball League on Tuesday states that in the Squaws versus S. China game on Sunday, "Bonnie Evers Remedios went the full distance of seven innings for the Squaws."

This is incorrect. Miss Remedios switched to Left Field in the fourth or fifth innings, and Dorothy Norman took over the pitching; this can be checked with anyone who saw the game, the score book, or Mr. Fred Ewins, the Squaws' new Manager.

Further, he states that "the Squaws battered S. China into submission with a thunderous volley of base blows and were injected with new life under new and capable Management." I agree with this, in general, but would like to point out that under the old Management, the Squaws also battered S. China into submission in the first round game, with fourteen (14) hits.

The Squaws have long been known for their hard hitting, and no Management in this Colony could change that, and should they meet the Wahoes in the Play-off, I tip them to win. "STRIKE THREE".

Given a sporting chance, of getting 217 runs in 130 minutes, the Craigengower cricketers gave their opponents some anxious moments as George Souza and K. V. Tam settled down to beautiful scoring strokes from the very first over and put 41 up on the board before Tam mispulled a full toss off Owen Hughes to give an easy catch at mid-on.

After hitting Leach for a straight six, he tried to lift the next one to deep-on. The ball pitched slightly short on the leg stump, he missed it and was given out lbw.

Mehinder Singh and Ragi kept alive the hopes of the Valley Club by bringing the score up to 131, when Singh misconnected in his attempt to pull Roberts to the leg boundary. With his departure, the bowlers soon got well on top, and Harry Owen Hughes, after an unsuccessful over from the Club and, found a good spot from the Dockyard end to start the rot for the batsmen and finish up with the analysis of seven wickets for 25 runs.

NUMBER OF "IFS"

There were a number of "ifs" in this match. First it is probable that the Scorpions would not have run so big a score if Stanton had not been missed at least six times on his way to his 111 score.

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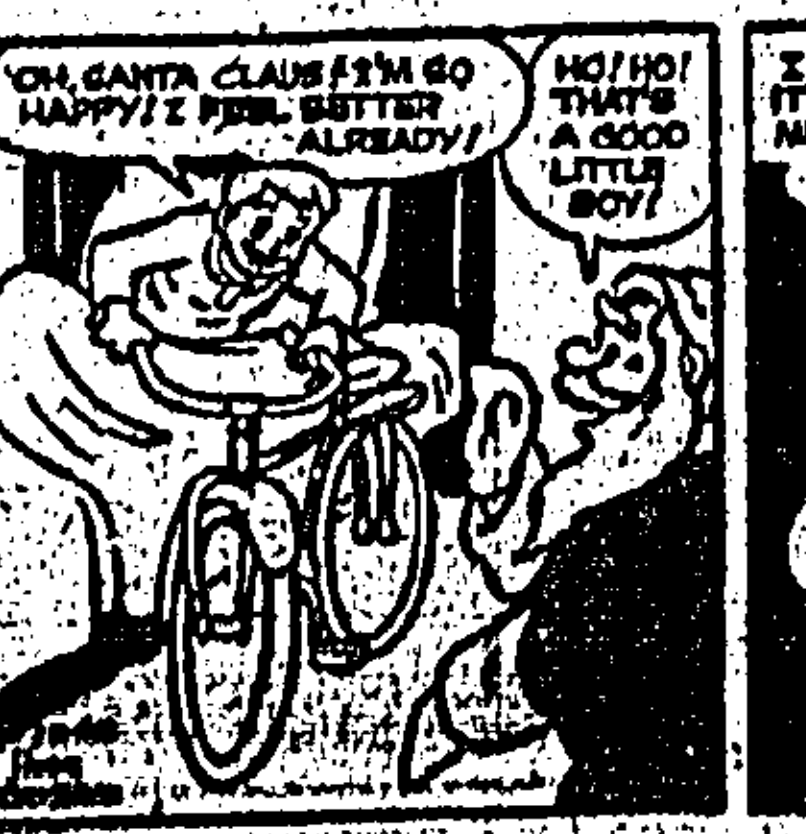
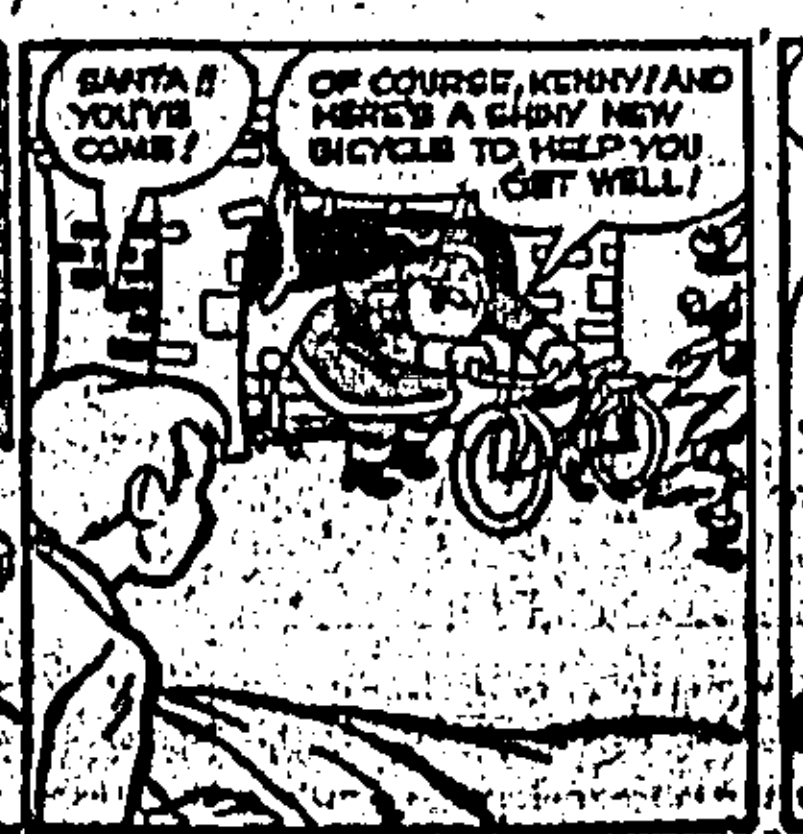
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Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer



By Robert L. May

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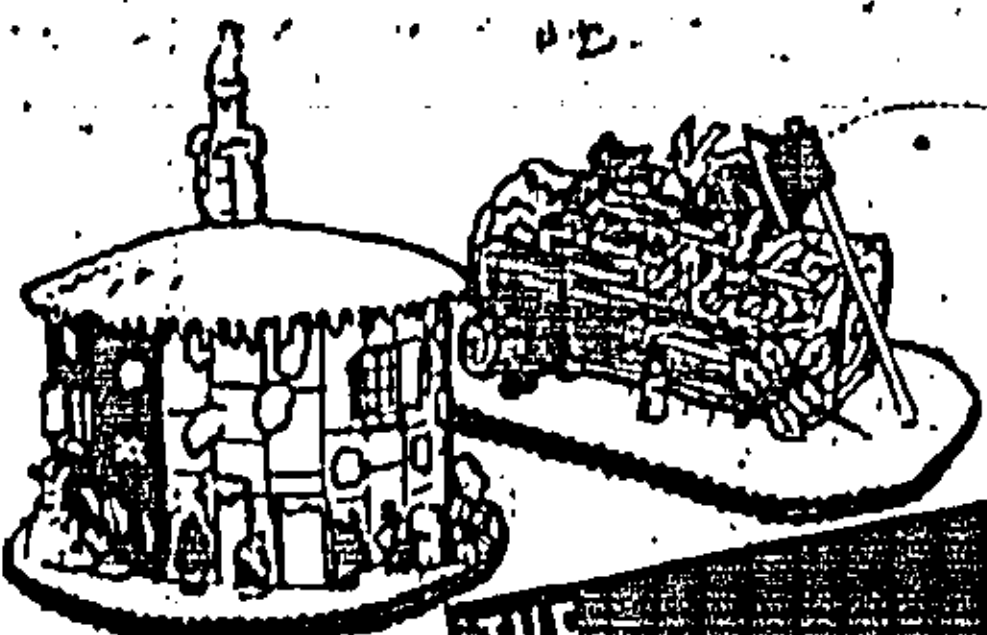
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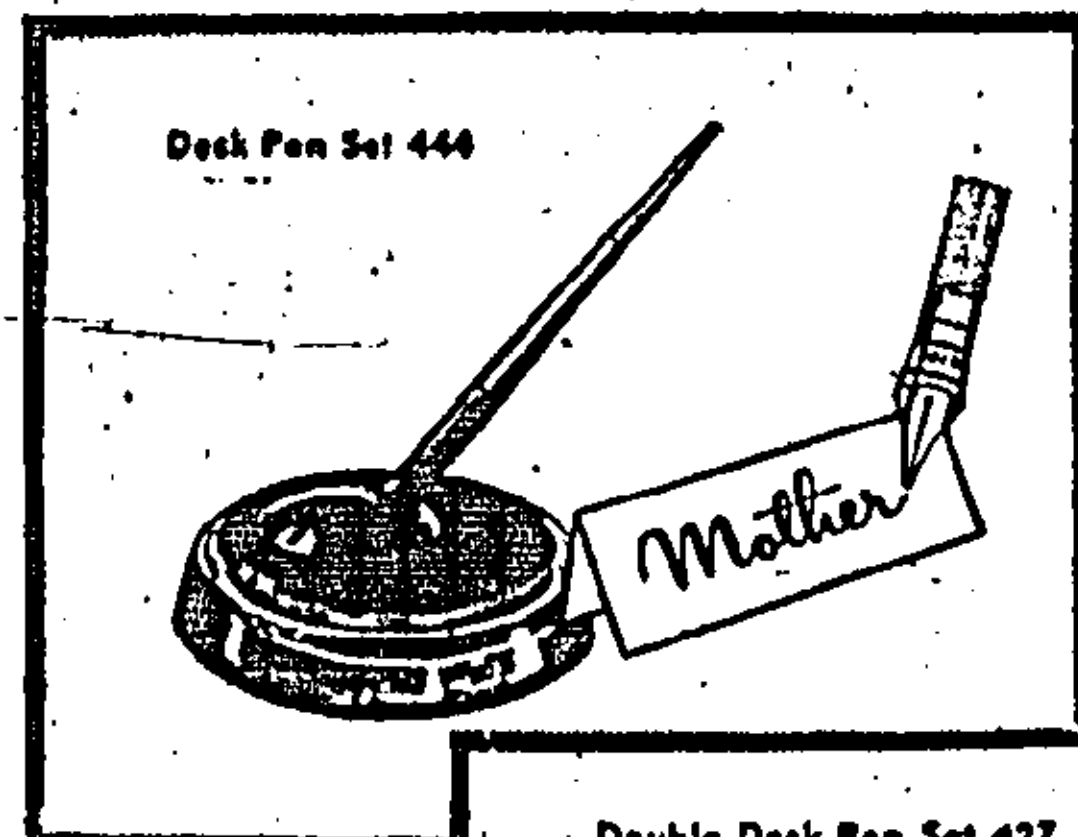


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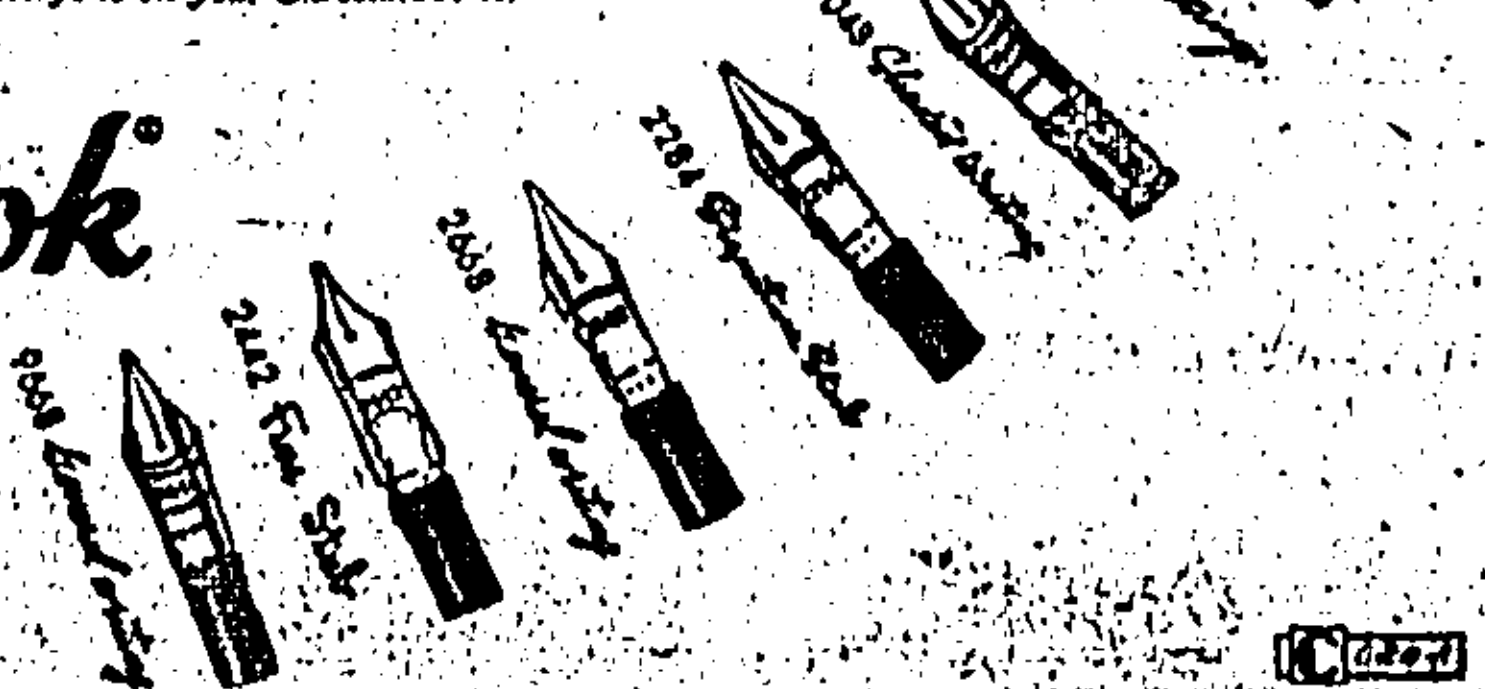
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BOYS' & GIRLS' CHRISTMAS PAGES

Journey For Three

A CHRISTMAS STORY
BY ANNE BARRETT



SOMEONE switched off the light and opened the window; moonlight spilled round the edges of the curtains and into the darkened room. The figure in the bed tossed and then humped up the pillow, turned over again and drew her nose down under the blankets as the cold air reached it. She breathed three times deeply and then was asleep.

Someone tiptoed round the door again to have a look and beckoned to another, who came in with an armful of parcels to put down. Between them they wheeled something large and heavy in through the door and went away. There was silence for a moment, then the three who had been watching inside the room dropped softly down to the floor.

Peter, the black boy, came first, then Monkey, then Andrew. They stood in a row in the moonlight and looked up at the bed.

Peter, the youngest, had rolling boot-button eyes and a crescent-shaped grin that curved up into his hair; whenever he moved his loose limbs jiggled to and fro as though he were dancing.

"But she has given us presents," said Peter. He never cared to look on the sad side of life. "What did she give us last year?" he asked. "Embroidered dressing gowns with our own initials!" said Andrew.

"And the year before?" "Shoes in our own sizes!" said Peter proudly and tapped with his own on the floor. "Then open your parcel and look," said Monkey, and he waited whilst Peter unwrapped the tissue paper.

"A star off the Christmas Tree! One of the decorations that were left over! Just as I thought. We were forgotten until the last moment and it was all she could find." Sadly Monkey and Andrew unwrapped their own stars and held them limply by their tinsel strings.

Andrew was a honey-coloured bear. He had held his arms out so often in greeting that one of them had stiffened and now he could no longer bring it down.

It was Monkey who spoke first. He looked at the heap of parcels and then, at the object that stood by the door. He shook his head.

"A bicycle," he said, "just as I feared. That parcel with the sharp edges is a camera. Our day is done."

They looked at each other sadly and nodded their heads.

Monkey looked at Andrew. "This is the moment," he said. "Do we go or stay?"

Andrew squared up his shoulders and spoke deep from his chest.

"I think we should go," he said gruffly. "Remember Ebbin."

They nodded. Ebbin had been the Brother's bear, lord of the nursery when they had first arrived. One could still see him lying about sometimes, when nobody could think where to put him away, but it was kinder not to look. There was nothing you could say to him now.

"It wouldn't be gay to be Ebbin," said Peter, dancing nervously.

"It would not be comfortable to be Ebbin," said Monkey grimly.

"It must be sad for the Brother when he sees old Ebbin," said Andrew, and he looked up again at his mistress's sleeping head.

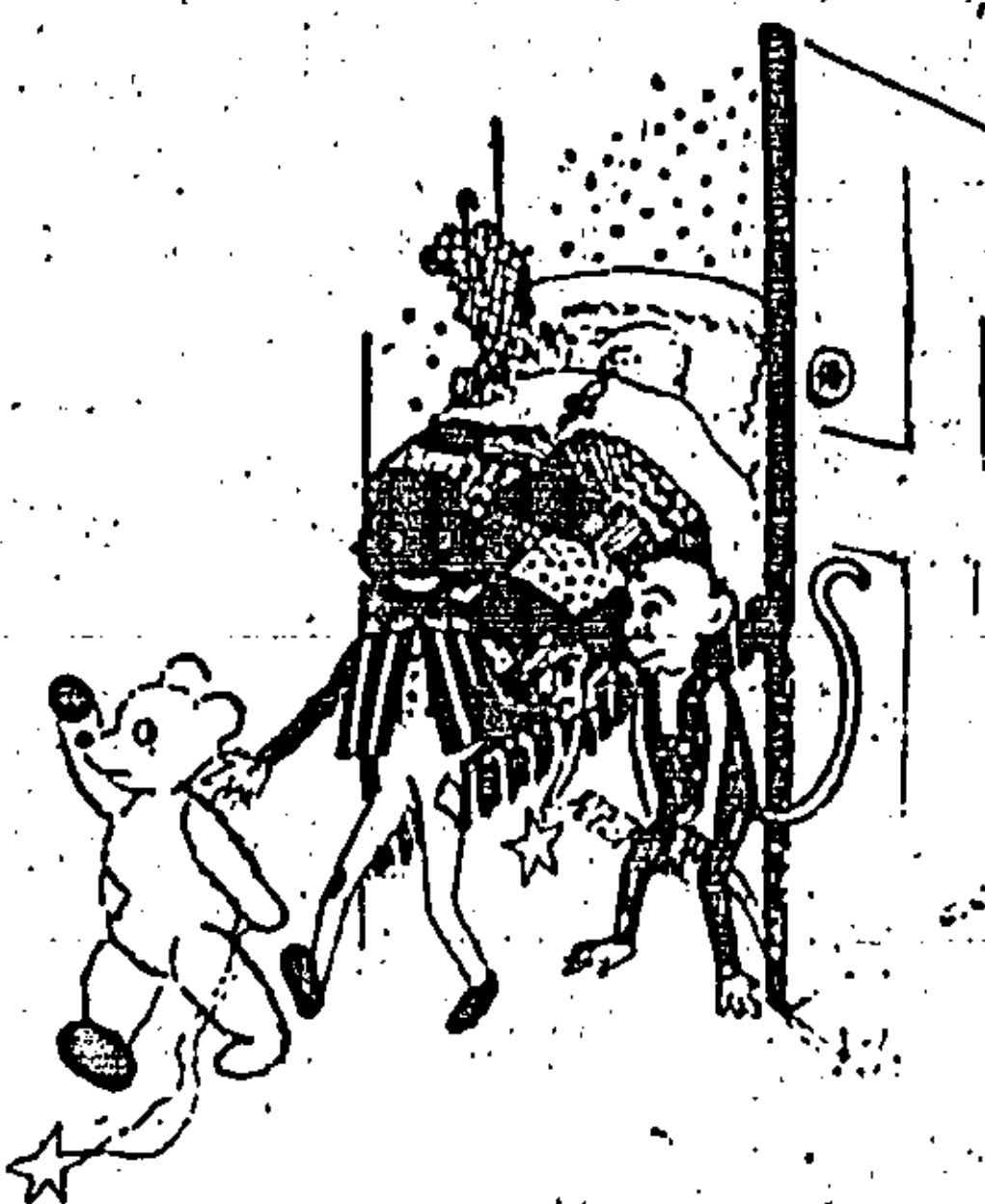
"Are we ready then?" asked Monkey. Andrew swallowed hard, and with great difficulty Peter stood still for a moment on the tips of his toes, leaning forward over the bed.

"I wish," he began lightly, for a toy may have one wish in the whole course of its life-time, and one wish only, "I wish that she may be happy!" and he fell back on his heels and started top-dancing again.

Monkey searched through his store of wisdom. "I wish that she may forget us," he said.

"Except just sometimes," said Andrew softly, and his wish had gone by.

As she tossed again in the moonlight and murmured something in her sleep, the first two stole out of the door. For a moment the finger tips of her outflung hand rested lightly on Andrew's head, then as she turned and drew it in again, he followed the others outside.



They trailed after Monkey across the slippery hall and mounted each other's shoulders to unlock the front door. They lowered themselves backwards down the front steps and at last they were out in the street. "I used to turn somersaults over these rails!" cried Peter, and lingered to turn just one more.

"No looking backwards!" said Monkey firmly. "The question is, where shall we go?" "Where the lights are!" cried Peter.

"To a hospital!" suggested Andrew. Monkey wrinkled up his face and thought hard.

"We must get right away first," he said, "or, sure as bedtime, the postman or milkman will find us and bring us back," and he started resolutely down the street.

The houses towered above them like mountains and the pavement flowed on like a river in the moonlight. Peter, lighted with the noise that his shoes made on the stone, Peter danced on ahead of the others, his shadow flinging up and down on the lamp-posts.

"Dancing and lights!" he cried, but the others went more slowly, not wanting to miss any chance. Monkey climbed up to look in through a nursery window and saw that people would stand and sing on a night like this if there wasn't a fire.

Andrew nodded. They might be singing about his star. A bus drew up beside them and they jumped up onto the step.

"Upstairs only!" They climbed up among the mounting feet, too breathless for a moment to do anything but listen. Just in front of them a couple with a small girl were talking to their neighbour.

"Been taking her to see the lights?"

They nodded. "Your only one?"

The father, snorted and the mother laughed out loud. "One of five! There's her and the twins, a boy of three and a baby girl."

Andrew felt Monkey stiffen to attention beside him.

The couple in front were talking again. "Oh, how cold it is! How I long to get back beside our big fire!" said the wife. "What a pity we couldn't find a monkey for young Tom, as he wanted, they don't seem to make them any more."

Monkey started, looked out of the window for a moment as he made up his mind, and then firmly turned round.

"You, come too," he whispered to Andrew. "Just imagine a house with five children! They could hardly grow out of us there!"

Andrew shook his head. He was a one-person bear and the thought of five children held no charms for him. Besides, he was after his star.

Monkey unwound the string of his little one and pressed it into Andrew's hand.

"Goodbye, old friend," he said hurriedly, and climbing down carefully he lowered himself into the shopping basket. It was only just in time for at the next stop his new family got off.

Holding the three stars, Andrew sat alone on the top of the bus.

"All changed!" He crept down among the feet again and stood on the pavement to think. While Monkey had been making his mind they had gone past the singing place; in the distance Andrew could still hear the faint sound of the carols. "Star of Wonder! Star of Light!" So they were still singing about it. He must go back and find out.

But Andrew was small, and the night was large, there was nobody about to follow now, still with his eyes gazing

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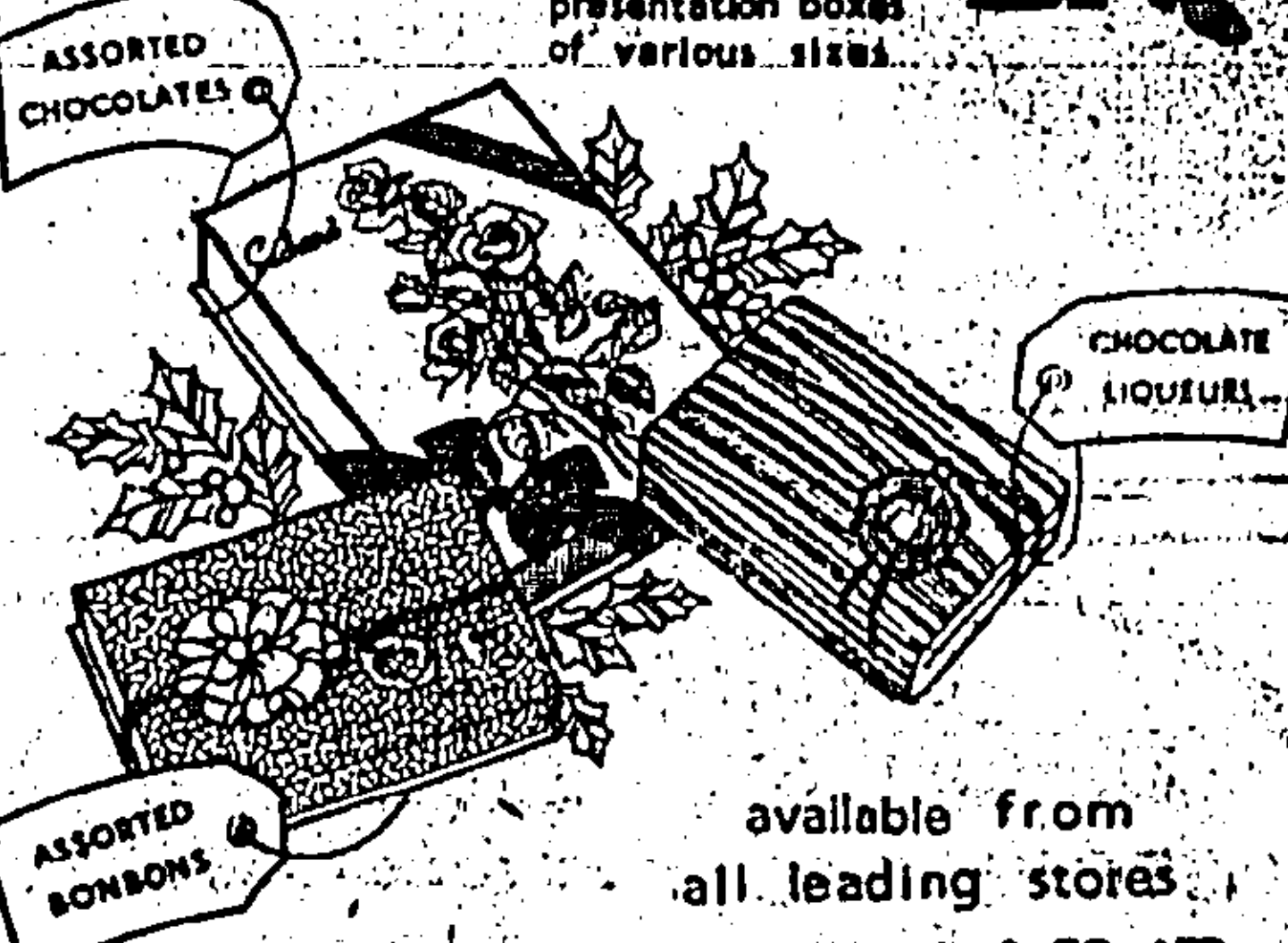
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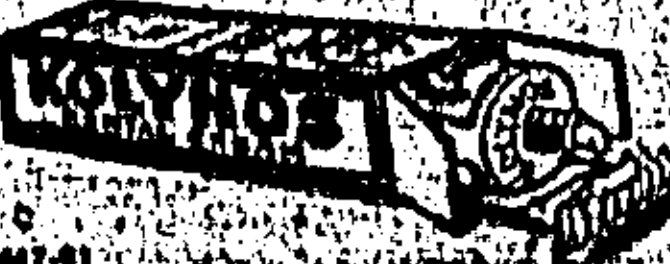
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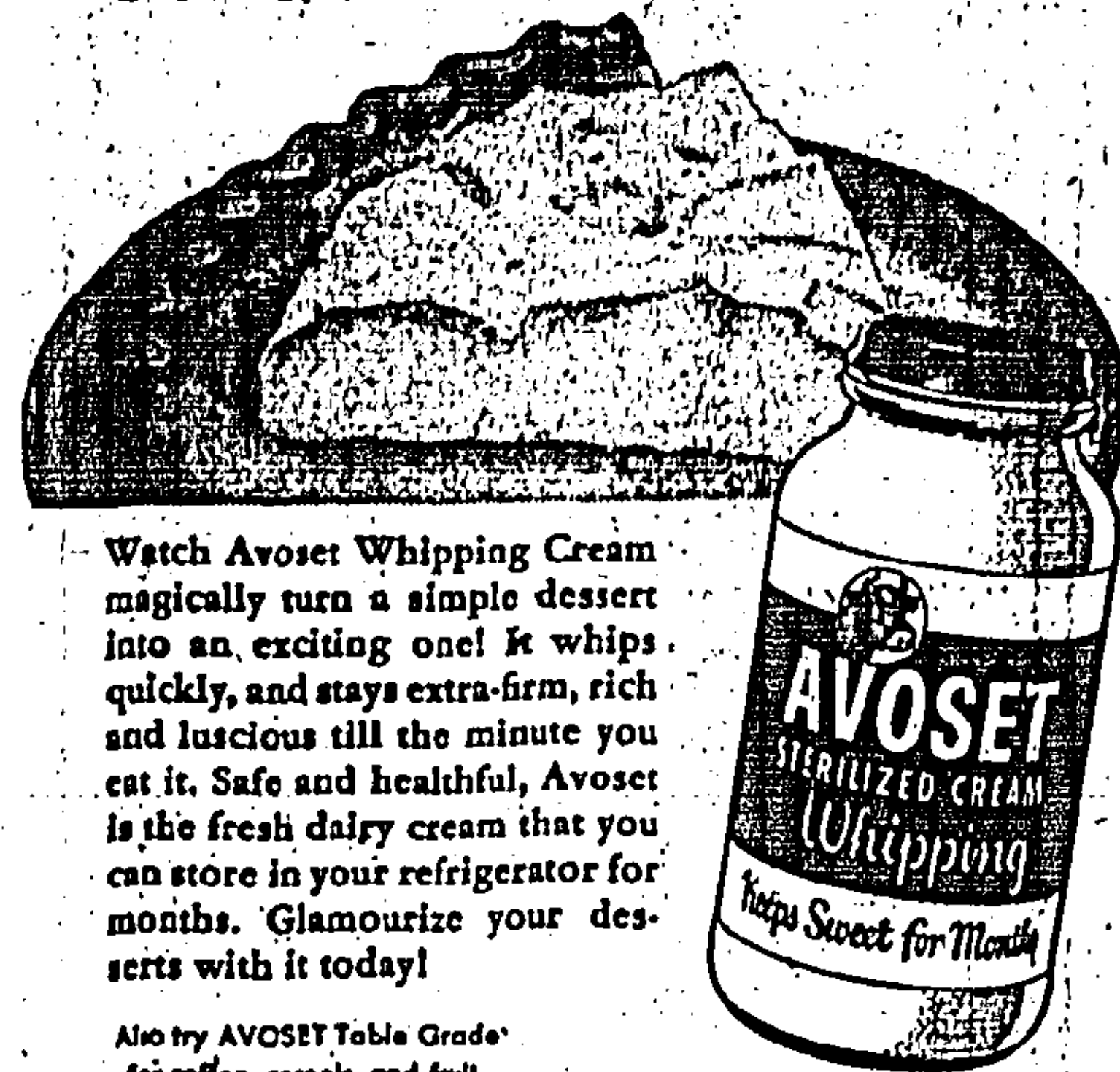
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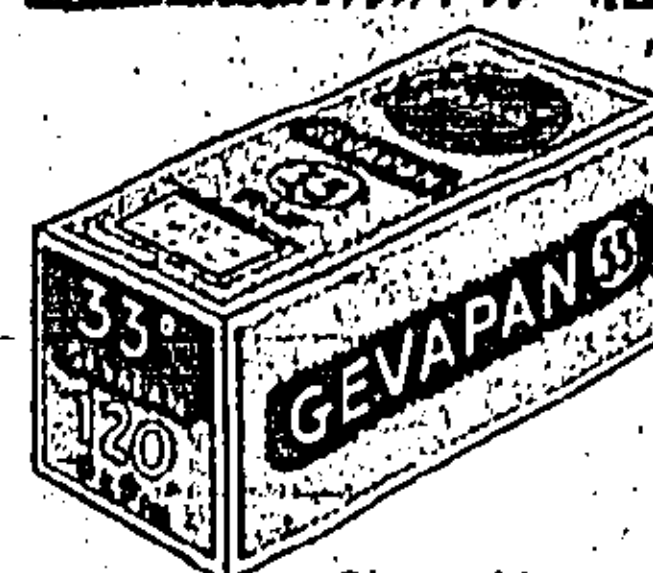
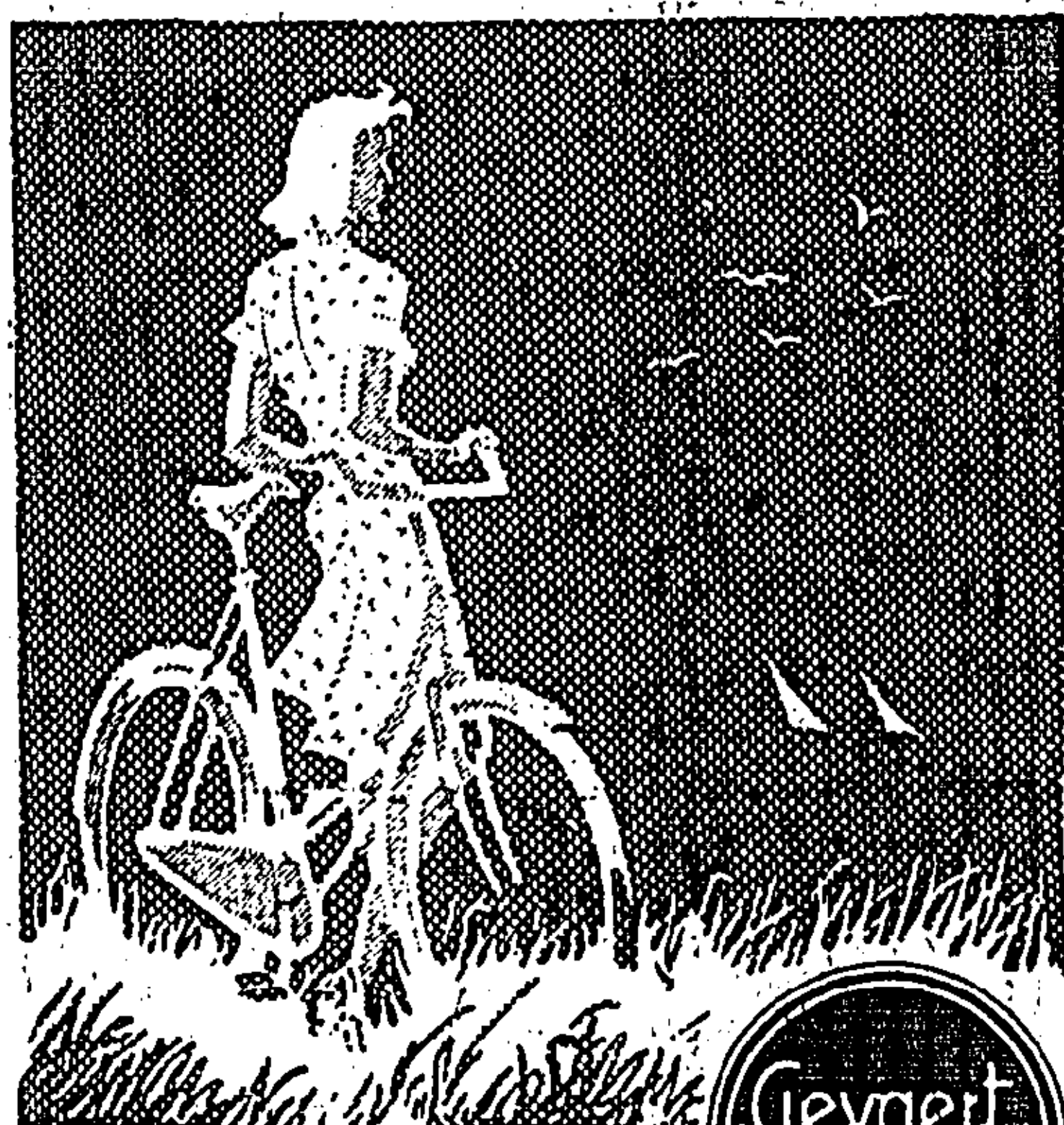
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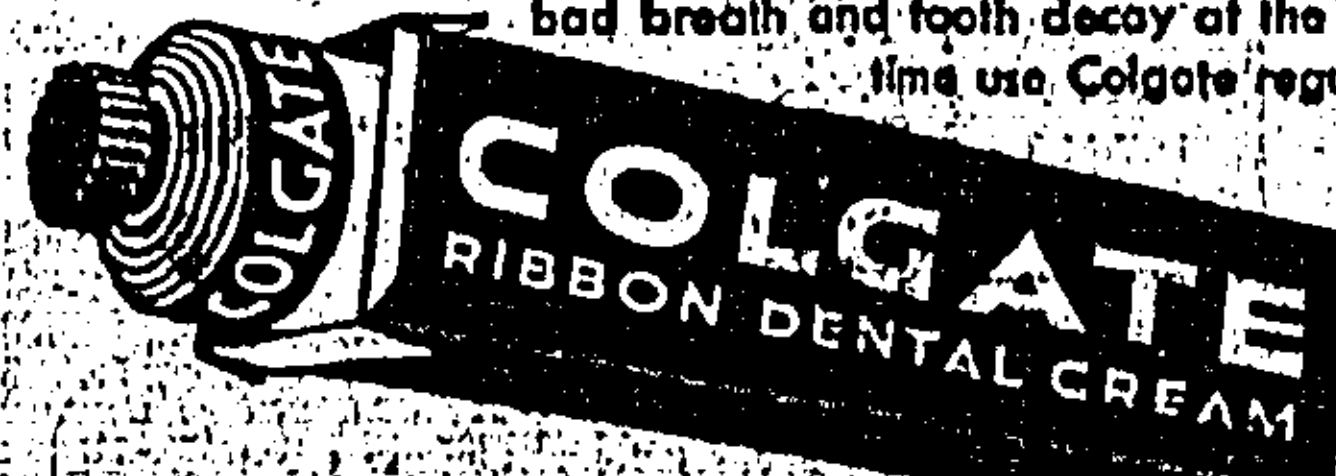
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Do a Christmas play— with puppets you've made

WHY not do a puppet play at Christmas? You can make your own characters—to wear as gloves, on your hands—and perform any amount of different stories by making them move and wave their hands and heads. It isn't necessary to have a theatre; you can perform your plays behind a big armchair, kneeling down behind it yourself and waggling your puppets on top. (See illustrations).

But if you want to get everything prepared in time for Christmas, you will need to start a few days early. This tells you how to make the puppets and how to dress them.

Making The Heads

To make four heads you will need:
1 lb. of whitening of china clay,
2 ozs. of solid glue or 4 ozs. liquid glue,
Half to one pint water,
Newspapers,
Thin cardboard.
Tear lots of newspapers into very small pieces and mix them up with water in an old saucepan. BOIL GENTLY FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR, until the mixture becomes so thick you can just pour it from a big spoon.

NOW ADD THE GLUE. Stir until it has dissolved and remove saucepan from heat. Gradually STIR IN THE WHITENING with a stick, and then knead with your fingers until you have a soft kind of clay.
For each head you will need a small cylinder about two inches long, just big enough to take the tip of your first finger. This can be made from thin cardboard, one end should be covered. Now COVER THE CYLINDER WITH CLAY in the form of a rough ball, and START TO MODEL, adding pieces for the nose, chin, etc. and gouging out hollows for the eyes.

When the head is complete, set it on a stick to dry for a day or two, and then paint the face with colours. For hair, pick out strands of wool in suitable colours—and stick on with glue.

Now For The Clothes

For each puppet, you will need a piece of material about 16 ins. long by 8 ins. wide. Fold this in half, so that you have a square 8 ins. by 8 ins. CUT OUT A CRESCENT SHAPE as shown by the dotted line on the diagram, and also CUT OUT THE SLEEVES.

If you open out the material, you will now find you have a hole in the middle of it. This is to go round the neck of your puppet. RUN A STRONG THREAD round this circle, about half an inch from the edge. Put your puppet's head through it, and draw the thread tight round the neck.

Now SEW UP the sides and the sleeves.
Now from a piece of double felt, cut out little HANDS about one inch long. (See illustration). Sew these to the ends of the sleeves.

Put your hand in the "glove", with your first finger in the head, your thumb and second finger in the middle. YOUR PUPPET IS ALMOST COMPLETE.

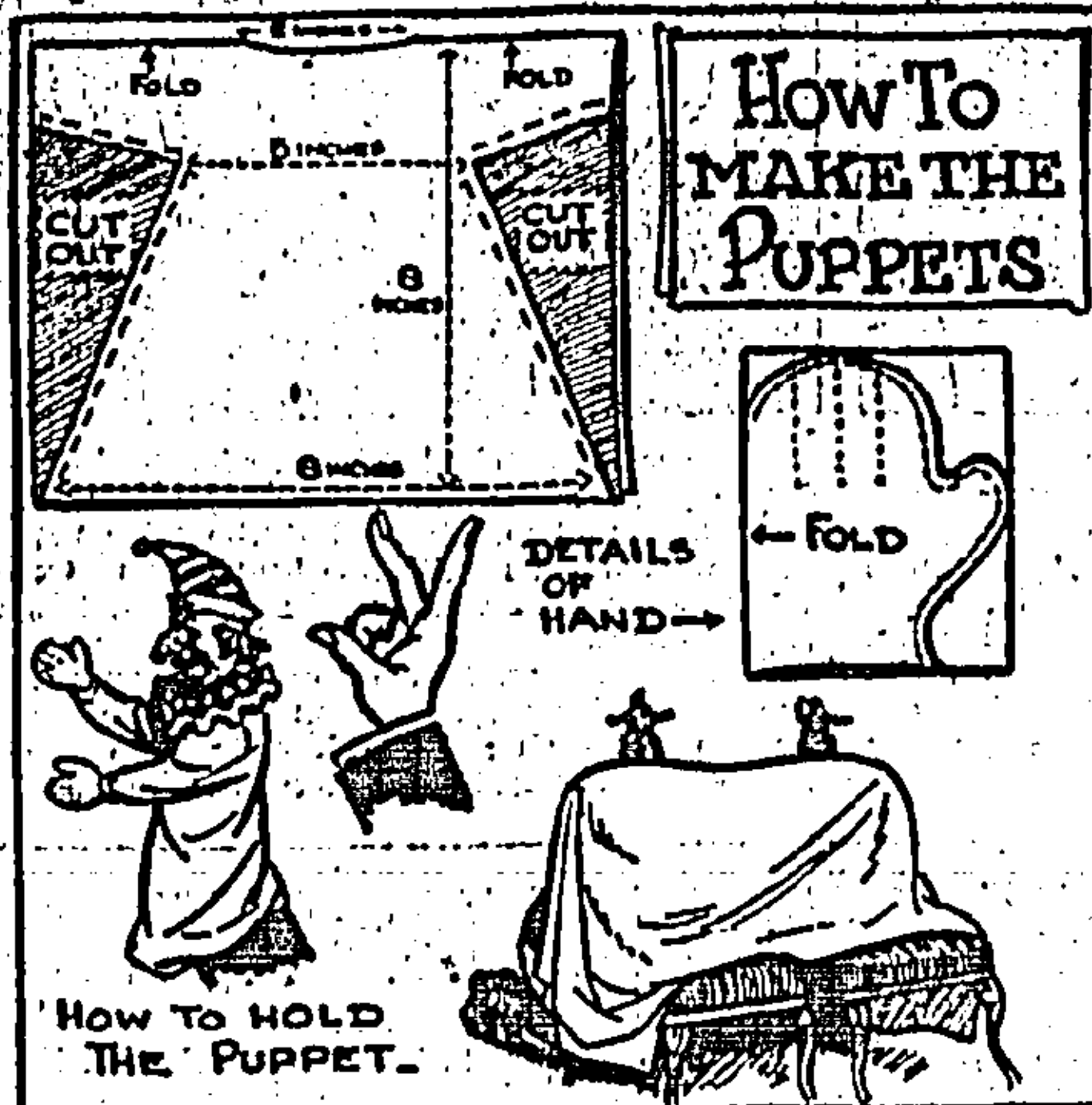
Making Different Characters

You can make different characters by choosing different coloured materials for the clothes. In the little play below, there are FOUR characters:

1. The Old Woman: Use black material for her, sticking on a little white cap for her head or a black veil. She has to carry a box in the play; use the "tray" from an ordinary matchbox.
2. Janet, her child: Some bright material would suit her. Get some thin strands of yellow wool to stick on for hair.
3. The King: He should be in red, with a paper crown pointed gold on his head. He might have a black beard too.
4. The Queen: In blue perhaps, also with a crown, but give her some long hair top.

Making Your Own Plays

You can use these four puppets in lots of different plays. You can also make other puppets: cats, dogs, the Mad Hatter or White Rabbit from "Alice in Wonderland", Punch and Judy (there is a picture of Punch to show you), Father Christmas, Cinderella or any of your favourite characters from stories. Make up your own plays from these stories.
If your story needs more than two characters, you will probably need a friend to help you. In the performance, in the play below you really need two people to work the puppets, though one person can do it; but it will mean changing the glove-puppets with one hand, and speaking all four different characters yourself.



THE PLAY "Christmas Roses"

(With the OLD WOMAN on your left hand and JANET on your right, bring them both on from your left, facing the audience. The OLD WOMAN should have the tray in her hands, i.e. between your fingers).

OLD WOMAN: We've no money to buy a Christmas tree, Janet. Now you run along. I'm going to sit here by the royal palace and try to sell the roses.

JANET: Why can't we have a Christmas tree?

OLD WOMAN: Because we've no money. Now go indoors and play with your brother. (Janet goes out LEFT) Roses! Christmas roses! Buy my roses! (Talking to herself) Oh dear, I must sell them. All the children at home and not even a food for them. And tomorrow's Christmas Day. (The KING comes in from the RIGHT) Good gracious me, here's the King! Roses, your majesty!

KING (briskly): No, not now, my good woman, I'm in a dreadful hurry. It's Christmas Eve, and I've all the royal family's presents to buy. Do you like—buying Christmas presents?

OLD WOMAN: Yes, your majesty. But I haven't any money to buy any.

KING: You're lucky. I wish I didn't have any money. I hate buying Christmas presents. I never know what to get—specially for the Queen. I suppose I'll give her another royal carriage. A golden carriage. (He goes out LEFT as the Queen comes in RIGHT)

QUEEN: Was that the King?

OLD WOMAN: Yes, your majesty. He's gone to buy Christmas presents.

QUEEN: (disgruntled) I suppose he'll buy me another golden carriage.

OLD WOMAN: Don't you want a golden carriage, your majesty?

QUEEN: I've got so many. He's given me a golden carriage every Christmas for the last ten years. (She goes out RIGHT)

OLD WOMAN: (amazed) A golden carriage every Christmas!

(The KING comes in LEFT)

KING: Of all beastly luck! The carriage-builders are shun. They're not opening again till two days after Boxing Day. It's too bad! What can I give the Queen now? It's got to be something expensive—I've six hundred pounds to spend. The

Lord Chamberlain will be furious.

OLD WOMAN: Lord Chamberlain?

KING: He'll be so rude if I come back with nothing. But if I can't get a carriage, what can I get? You see, I always give the Queen a new carriage at Christmas. It's so much simpler than having to think what she really wants.

OLD WOMAN: Why don't you give her a necklace?

KING: How much would that be?

OLD WOMAN: Quite a lot. Fifty pounds, perhaps.

KING: That's no good. I've got to spend six hundred pounds. The Lord Chamberlain told me so.

OLD WOMAN: Then what about a new crown for the Queen?

KING: They're very cheap nowadays, not made of gold any longer, you know. Oh dear, oh dear, I—what have you got in that tray? Haven't you something to sell?

OLD WOMAN: These are just roses.

KING: Roses at Christmas? **OLD WOMAN:** Yes, not many people can grow roses at Christmas, but I can. I grow them specially.

KING: Then let me buy them. They'll do, they'll do perfectly. I heard the Queen say only yesterday she wished she had some Christmas roses in the garden. She'll love those much better than a golden carriage. There you are. There's—six—hundred pounds.

OLD WOMAN: But—

KING: You've saved my life, my dear. Roses! There's a present for the Queen indeed. How clever I was to think of it! (He goes out RIGHT) having taken the roses—you can pretend this—from the OLD WOMAN'S tray.

OLD WOMAN: Six hundred pounds! But they were only 6d. a bunch, Janet!

JANET: (She need not necessarily appear) Coming!

OLD WOMAN: Go and buy that Christmas tree, and a goose too, and crackers and cakes and sweets! We can have a Christmas after all! (She goes out)

THE END

The Kindest Man In The World

—He Would Do You a Favour—And Then Thank You—
By MAX TRELL

"DID I ever tell you," Mr Punch said to Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, "about the friend Mr Sam?"
Knarf and Hanid immediately shook their heads.

"You're sure?" said Mr Punch. Knarf and Hanid said they were quite sure.

Mr Punch lit his pipe, took a puff or two, stretched his legs out comfortably and smiled. "Mr Sam," he said, "was the nicest, most generous, best natured man I ever knew. I wish he were here now. I wish you both could know him."

"Where is Mr Sam?" Hanid asked.

Out Helping Somebody
"I don't know exactly. He's been out helping somebody who probably out helping somebody or other. It's no use going to his house because," Mr Punch said, smiling again, "when you get there you find that he has given it away to somebody who needed it more than he did."

"I never know anybody like Mr Sam for giving things away. He would give away his money. He would give away all the food in his pantry. One day I met Mr Sam on a very cold winter's day. He was walking without a coat and without any shoes."

"My goodness!" exclaimed Hanid. "Did he give his coat and his shoes away, too?"



Mr Sam worked very hard. He was a carpenter.

"He did indeed. He told me he had just met an old man who was shivering with the cold. Mr Sam never could keep anything for himself when he saw that someone else needed it."

Knarf said: "But after Mr Sam gave the old man his coat and his shoes, wasn't Mr Sam cold himself?"

"He certainly was," said Mr Punch. "But he said he didn't mind being cold if somebody else was warm. Mr Sam was that way. He couldn't help being generous. He would always say, 'Perhaps somebody else will be cold and hungry. Then somebody will help me.'"

(Continued on page 25)



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"AGAPENOR"	London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	25th Jan.	
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G. "ASCANIUS"	do	10th Jan. 1953	
S. "AGAPENOR"	do	17th Jan. 1953	
G. "PYRRHUS"	do	23rd Jan. 1953	
S. "CALCHAS"	do	30th Jan. 1953	
G. "AUTOMEDON"	25th Dec.	6th Feb. 1953	
S. "ATREUS"	5th Jan.	10th Jan. 13th Feb. 1953	
G. "PELEUS"	9th Jan.		

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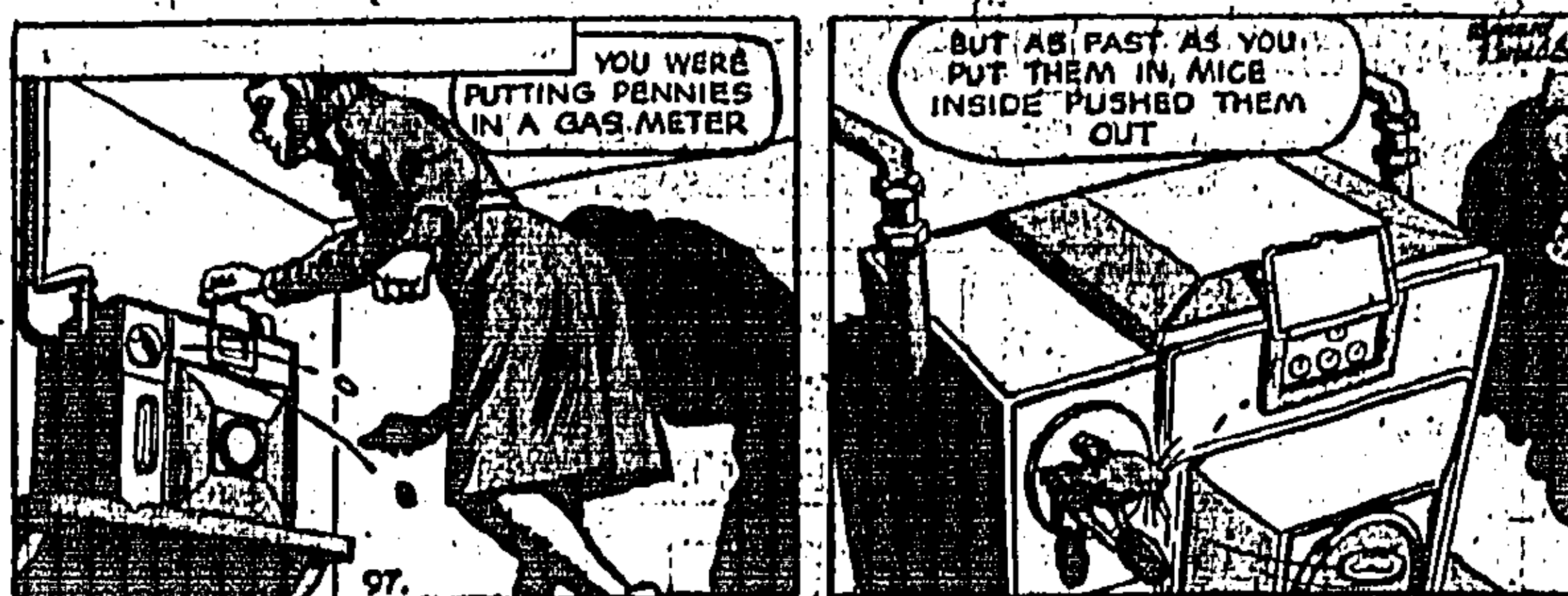
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"BENMIOR"	U.K. 2nd Feb.

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"BENRECH"	Direct to Singapore, thence Genoa, London, Hull and Hamburg. 20th Jan.
"BENATTOW"	Kure, Kobe and Yokohama 21st Jan.
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—THIS DREAM MEANS!

The less you like facing a problem, the more heavily the dream symbolism disguises it. Generally speaking, boxes, caskets, houses, all hollow objects are feminine symbols; as is the meter. The meter is capable of giving out light and warmth if fed with pennies (money often symbolises love).

If you unravel the twist of disguise in this dream, the meaning is something like this: You want love and affection—but the mice represent waste subconscious little subconscious emotions which keep on collecting the pennies, i.e., signs of affection.

Is it shyness, fear of men in general or of one in particular? Fear is often the result of ignorance which a little knowledge will dispel; a little self-analysis would do no harm.

TABLE TALK QUIZ ANSWERS

CURRENT AFFAIRS:

1. Greece; Russia; Italy; Persia.

2. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; Mutual Security Agency; United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

3. U.S.A.; Ceylon; Western Germany; France.

4. Burma; Iceland; Iran; South Africa.

5. Sweden; Denmark; Libya; Norway.

SCIENCE:

1. Television; Penicillin; the Telephone; Printing.

2. Brass; Pewter; Bronze; Iridosmine (used for the points of gold pens).

3. Instruments for measuring: density of fluids; the aneroid; barometer; the aneroid; barometer; the aneroid; barometer.

4. Venus; Uranus; Pluto; Neptune.

5. Roughly, fish and chips, peas and salt. Sodium chloride; salt. Pisum sativum; peas. Pleuronectes tibericus; plaice. Solanum tuberosum; potato.

HISTORY:

1. U.S.A.; India; South Africa (the Zulu War, 1879); Belgium.

2. Charles II; James Stuart; son of James II—father of the Young Pretender; the Duke of Wellington; Bismarck.

3. Italian—popular hero largely responsible for uniting Italy in mid-19th Century; South African—President of the Boers

RATING

1. OVER 90. Talk without hesitation in any society—you are clearly qualified to do so.

2. BETWEEN 80 and 90. You can hold your own in most types of society.

3. BETWEEN 70 and 80. You may make some embarrassing remarks at times, even among your friends.

4. BELOW 70. Silence is Golden.

during Boer War; Carthaginian—ancient Rome's greatest opponent; Russian—Czar from 1895-1917, famed for his fierce, cruel and extensive social reforms.

4. Queen Victoria—83 years; Lady Jane Grey—9 days; George IV; George II—at the battle of Dettingen, 1743, in the War of the Austrian Succession.

5. Lord North; Lord Palmerston; the Duke of Wellington; Sir Robert Peel.

1. (a) Tennis; Golf; Racing; Boxing. (b) Baseball; the bat used; ice hockey—the disc used as a ball; Cricket; Polo—the period of play. (c) Rugby football; Golf; Cricket; Bowling; tennis; Athletics; boxing; darts.

2. Russia; Sweden; Hungary; Czechoslovakia.

THE ARTS:

1. Sheridan; Aeschylus; Charlotte Brontë; Mark Twain.

Journey For Three

(Continued from Page 20)

and, as he wandered in what he thought was the right direction, a prowling cat sprang out from the shadows and chased him far out of his way. The sound of the singing grew fainter; at last Andrew could hear it no longer and sank down on a doorstep, quite lost.

A cold wind blew round the corner and shivered the tips of his fur, his short legs ached and his pads were sore. For a moment, his heart ached too; he thought of the nursery, the pile of parcels, the bicycle by the door.

What fun he would have riding it! A little spark lit in his heart at the thought, then glowed warmer as he remembered Monkey and Peter and their luck. Thinking of his friends and with new courage, he got to his feet and looked down the deserted street.

And there at the end of it was the star.

There was no mistaking it; it shone brighter than any he had ever seen, resting on the topmost branches of a giant Christmas Tree. He ran and stumbled up the dark hill towards it. The tree stood at the top of some steps in the doorway of a building, and Andrew could see the dark shape of a great dome rising behind the star. With great difficulty, for each step was as tall as himself, he climbed to the top and stood beneath the tree.

The wind that had ruffled his fur shook a fragrance of pine woods down from its needles and set the great star and all the little lights beneath it trembling. A powdering of silver dust fell like snow from the air. Andrew looked up at the large tree and its green, feathery arms seemed to curve down over him in protection. Suddenly he felt very tired. Still trailing his small stars behind him he crept in among the comforting branches and lay down. The tree swayed slightly above him and then the deep bells rang out from the dome. It was Christmas Day, but Andrew was asleep.

When the midnight service was over and the people had gone away, two were still left on the steps by the tree.

"I am so very sorry," said the man, "but all the toys were distributed earlier. If only you had come before..."

"I was working," said the woman, who seemed to be very poor, and her eyes searched the tree. "Now I've nothing to give him at all."

The man looked at her sadly and then down at the ground.

"Look," he said, "some of the little stars seem to have fallen from the tree, even those would be better than nothing," and he bent to pick them up. "We had such lovely toys too, this year," he went on, "painted carts and shops; the most beautiful things."

The woman shook her head. "I didn't want none of them smart toys," she said, "not for him. Only something for Christmas that'd teach him to love. Ain't that what it's for? Set his heart on a bear, poor little chap; there's a lot o' love in bears. Still, it's good of you to get them stars," and she held out her hand to receive them.

As the verges tried to pick them up he gave an exclamation. "They seem to be caught on something inside," he said, and pulled a little harder.

The branches of the Christmas Tree parted. Still holding the stars in one hand and with the other one raised in greeting, Andrew stepped out.

The little lamp went for Lily. "Oh dear, I suppose it's really my fault," says Rupert. "She's so proud of those new clothes I ought not to have asked her to risk losing them that way. All you don't mind it, but star, here it is, so I'll put it down. And leaving the Guides, he follows Lily. He shouts: RESCUED."

Knarf And Hanid

(Continued from Page 21)

"Was Mr Sam an old man or a young man? What did he look like?" Knarf wanted to know. "He wasn't old," replied Mr Punch, "and he wasn't young; He was sort of in-between. He worked very hard. He was a warper. He got up very early in the morning, and he worked until late at night.

"He was always making things—useful things like houses, and tables and chairs and beds. Only he hardly ever made those things for himself. As I said before, he usually gave his houses away. And more often than not he had no table to put his dinner on, no chairs to sit in and no bed to sleep in.

"When Christmas time came around," Mr Punch continued, "you never saw anyone busier than Mr Sam. Even before it grew light in the morning he was out in the wood cutting down trees to give to children who had none. Then he would make wooden toys—dolls for the girls, trains and wagons for the boys—and paint them, and wrap them and put them in a bag and take them around."

"Oh, I thought Santa Claus did that," said Knarf.

"Santa Claus did," said Mr Punch, "and Santa Claus does. But Mr Sam helped him. I'm quite sure that Mr Sam, wherever he is now, still helps him. Now and then, when Santa Claus was particularly busy, Mr Sam would even slide down a chimney or two. There wasn't anything that Mr Sam wouldn't do to make someone else happy."

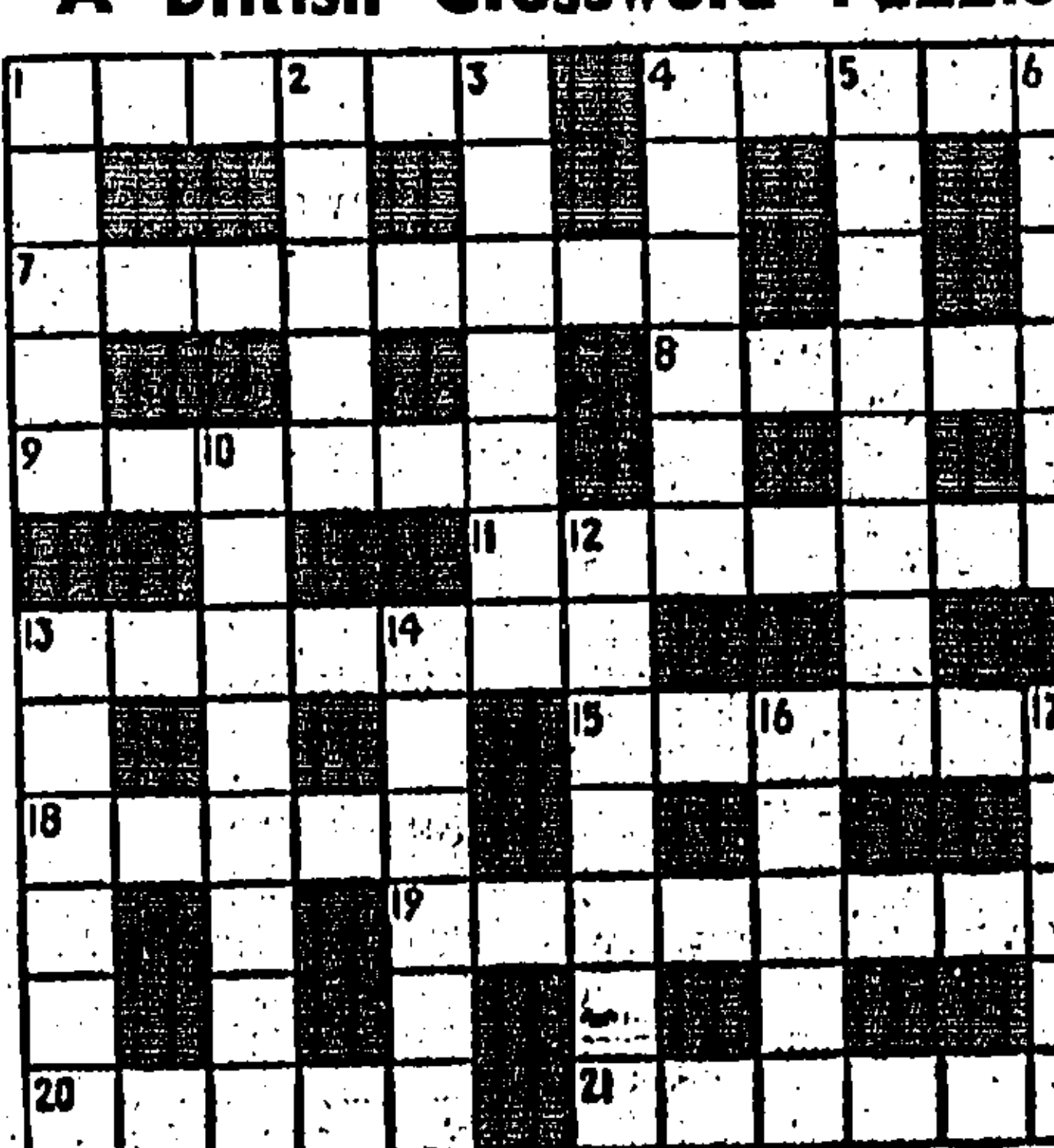
"I really wish we could meet Mr Sam," Knarf said.

"Oh, you will," answered Mr Punch. "You might find him anywhere—walking along the street, sitting in a street-car or bus, marching in a parade, or just sitting on the banks of a pond, fishing."

"But—but how will we know him even if we should meet him?" Mr Punch chuckled. "You'll know Mr Sam all right. Just ask him to do you a favour. If he smiles at once and stops everything that he's doing to do you your favour, the chances are it's Mr Sam himself. And if, after doing you your favour, he thanks you for letting him do it and asks you if you're positive there isn't another favour he can do for you, then you can be absolutely sure it's Mr Sam."

And Mr Punch smiled once more and sat back, smoking his pipe and thinking of his old friend Mr Sam.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
1 Railwayman (6).
4 Judges (5).
7 Liberated (6).
8 Relative (5).
9 Hurry along (6).
11 Brought into being (7).
13 Dismiss (7).
15 Deliberate killing (6).
16 Indian coin (5).
18 Tells (8).
20 Savour (5).
21 Follows (6).

DOWN
1 Dry up (6).
2 Entertain (5).
3 Honour (7).
4 Enter (6).
5 Carried out (8).
6 Extend (6).
10 Footwear (6).
12 Repentance (7).
13 Downright (6).
14 Inflict retribution for (6).
16 Harvest (6).
17 Reposes (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Scum, 4 Molests, 8 Ape, 9 Plus, 10 Rinsing, 13 Trio, 12 Dope, 14 Tussles, 17 Aware, 19 Demur, 22 Tenders, 23 Lent, 27 Rice, 28 Cornet, 29 Cure, 30 Sent, 31 Deserts, 32 Stem. Down: 2 Callow, 3 Master, 4 Merit, 5 Odious, 6 Eases, 7 Tinge, 12 Duff, 13 Pawn, 15 Lime, 16 Sort, 18 Arrest, 20 Elects, 21 Untrue, 22 Erode, 24 Drove, 25 Sites.

Rupert and the Diamond Leaf—7



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"CORFU"	8th January	9th Feb. 1953
"CHUSAN"	20th January	17th Feb. 1953

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CARTHAGE"	16th January	16th February
"CORFU"	13th February	10th March
"CHUSAN"	21st February	20th March

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FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	From U.K.	For
"SHILLONG"	7th Jan. 1953	Japan
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"SUNDA"	4th January	Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, London

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"WARORA"	sails 28th Dec.	for Japan
	due 5th Jan.	from Japan
	sails 7th Jan.	for Straits, Rangoon & Chittagong

P. & O.B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OKHLA"	due 20th Dec.	from P. Gulf Karachi, Bombay Colombo & S'p
	sails 27th Dec.	for Japan
"ORNA"	due 31st Jan.	from Japan
	sails 6th Jan.	for Singapore Colombo, Bhamo Y. B.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1952.

Sheaffer's "SNORKEL"

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Mother And Daughter

THE mother stood in the dock at Bow Street, and her grown-up daughter stood in the witness-box.

The mother was hatless and in tweeds. She had the air of a country woman harassed by some such minor calamity as a sudden invasion of week-end guests when beds were not properly aired. The daughter, a plump pretty young woman, looked to belong more to the town. She wore a white hat and a blue coat that became her very well.

A week earlier the mother had pleaded guilty to stealing from a shop near Fleetly Circus a pair of gloves priced at 11s.

On that occasion the police officer in charge of the case said to the magistrate: "This woman was fined for shoplifting three years ago. Her behaviour in custody has been very strange. I would suggest."

"Quite quiet," the magistrate said. "I'll demand her for a medical report, physical and mental."

"Thank you, sir," the officer said, for that was exactly what he had been about to suggest.

BUT when they brought back

Muriel, after a week under observation in Holloway Prison's hospital, there was evidently nothing in the report that accompanied her, to account for her strange behaviour.

The magistrate, Mr. Frank Milton, called in the probation officer, Miss Hamilton.

"This woman," Miss Hamilton said, "seems to alternate between living on public assistance, and doing quite good work. She was married to a Frenchman, but they parted 20 years ago, and he went back to France. There are two daughters, and I have had a long talk with one of them this morning. I understand they were brought up by grandparents, and did not live with their mother."

THEN it was, that Muriel's daughter was invited into the witness-box.

"Your mother's a problem to us, as I dare say she's been to you," Mr. Milton said to the daughter.

"On and off, yes," the daughter said.

"Have you any suggestions as to why she's becoming a thief?"

"I'm puzzled," the daughter admitted, "but I don't think, really, she's a thief. I think it's... what's the word?... kleptomania. From the time she was looking towards her mother, as if studying her anxiously for symptoms of this disease. The mother returned her gaze, her whole attitude one of appeal to her daughter."

"I haven't the feeling, she's a thief," the daughter said, turning to the magistrate at the end of her scrutiny.

"Do you think that living alone and having only intermittent employment may have something to do with it?" the magistrate asked.

"Yes, yes, I do," the girl said. "Is there anything the family could do?" Mr. Milton inquired.

"In what way?" the daughter asked sharply.

"I don't know, it seems rather forlorn..."

"Financially we aren't a very rich family," the daughter said quickly. "To support a woman would take rather a lot. I haven't lived with my mother since I was very small."

The daughter stood down, and the magistrate asked Muriel if she had anything to say.

"I HAVE the chance of a job coming along," she said eagerly, "I'd like to take it, if you can grant me..."

"I'm not very satisfied with your attitude," the magistrate said, "but I'm going to put you on probation. Miss Hamilton has had remarkable results with people who seemed most unpromising subjects. You should look on her as a friend. I have a notion that half your trouble is that you haven't enough of those 'friends'."

"I'd be glad to look at her like that," Muriel said. Then she left the court by one door, and her daughter left by another. The case was over.

INTELLIGENCE TEST SOLUTION

The third link in an anagram of Newcombe United (cup holders), the group of four, consisted of United (league champions).

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"My husband says I should be the one to play Santa this year, to save wear and tear on the pillows—he's quite a wit!"

Israel Withdraws Complaint Against The Arab Nations

United Nations, Dec. 19. Israel today decided to remove from the United Nations General Assembly agenda her complaint against the Arab States of a violation in the provisions of the Charter and the Israeli-Arab armistice agreement.

The move followed the defeat in the General Assembly yesterday of a motion calling on the Israelis and Arabs to enter into direct negotiations to resolve their differences as soon as possible.

Living Language

Why we say Symbol.

The Greek words *syn-ballein* meant "put together" and they were applied to a tally or coin which had been broken in two. A man carrying one half would know that a message brought to him was true if it came accompanied by the second half. Thus a *syn-ballein* came to mean proof or evidence of something else, and the present-day "symbol" thus means a sign or representation.

HURRICANE BATTING

Jamshedpur, Dec. 19. A hurricane century before lunch by Imtiaz Ahmed was the feature of the opening day of a three-day match between Pakistan and the East Zone today.

No bowler could suppress his urge to hit and, cutting, hooking and pulling, Imtiaz scored 100 in 61 minutes.

Two wickets had fallen for a mere 27 when he came in and he at once proceeded to collar the attack. His fine innings included 10 fours.

He was well supported but at a slower pace by Nazir Mohammed, who had opened the innings. Nazir went on to his third century of the tour and his and Imtiaz were chiefly responsible for Pakistan being in the sound position of 345 for seven wickets when play ended.

It was the first time that any visiting team had registered two centuries on the same day at Jamshedpur.—Reuter.

North Borneo Appointment

London, Dec. 20. Mr. Bryan Justin O'Brien, 51, Colonial Secretary of Gibraltar, has been appointed Chief Secretary of North Borneo, in succession to Mr. James Calder, 54, who is retiring from the Colonial Office.

Mr. O'Brien was appointed to Gibraltar in 1947 after serving in Cyprus, Mauritius and Trinidad.

Mr. Calder became Chief Secretary of North Borneo in 1940.—Reuter.

TURPIN MAY FIGHT FRENCHMAN

Paris, Dec. 19. The European Boxing Union (E.B.U.) considers that a match between Randolph Turpin, the British champion, and Charles Humez of France should be regarded as an eliminator for a world title bout with an American.

M. Raymond Lhericourt, Administrative Secretary of the E.B.U., said today that the Union was entirely of the opinion expressed earlier today by M. Gilbert Benaim, the Paris promoter.

Mr. Benaim said that a European title fight between Turpin and Humez should also be a preliminary to designate the boxer to meet an American for the world title. He suggested that the American be the winner of a bout between Carl Olson and Kid Gavilan, holder of the world welterweight title.

The promoter, who felt that the retirement of world champion Sugar Ray Robinson would allow for more fights, called for an 'international' federation to be formed.

"What I should like to see is that a real international federation be formed," M. Benaim said.

"The perpetual conflict between the National Boxing Association and the New York State Athletic Commission, is useless to international boxing promotion."

Humez meets Mickey Laurent over 10 rounds here tonight.—Reuter.

Spandau Nazis Well Treated

Bonn, Dec. 19. The Allied High Commission for Germany said today that the seven Nazis held in Spandau Prison, run by the four occupation powers in Berlin, were enjoying greater facilities than were provided in German prison regulations.

The Commission's statement, issued to the Press, was in answer to German newspaper reports criticising the treatment of the prisoners.

The seven are: Rudolf Hess, Hitler's Deputy; Fuchrer, Admiral Erich Raeder and Karl Doenitz, the Youth Leader, Baldur von Schirach, Franz von Neurath, former head of the Reich Foreign Office, Albert Speer, Nazi Commissioner for War, and Walter Funk, President of the Reichsbank.—Reuter.

Japanese Envoy At State Department

Washington, Dec. 19. The Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Eiichi Arita, conferred for a half hour today with the United States Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, Mr. John Allison.

Afterwards the Ambassador told reporters they discussed general problems including economic and defence issues.—Reuter.

DARTWORDS SOLUTION
CONSERVATIVES — Tories —
Sortie — Baby — Tally — Score —
Scissors — Nuts — Nuts — Nuts —
Loan — Advance — Progress — Pilgrim —
Fathers — Sires — Sirens —
Shorten — Dock — Leaf — Page —
Face — Cape — Caper — Frise —
Shake — Breeze — Large — Scepter —
Surge — Urges — Irrity — Sumpo —
Simon — Tison — Athens —
Hasten — Pardon — Secure — Rascus —
Save — Selves — Selves — Selves —
Hitch — Hilda — INCORPORATE

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per "BENROCO"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Godowns, Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown, where it will be at the disposal of the consignees. The Wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors. Messrs. Carmichael and Co., Ltd., 30 and 32, December, 1952.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 23rd December, 1952, will be subject to sale.

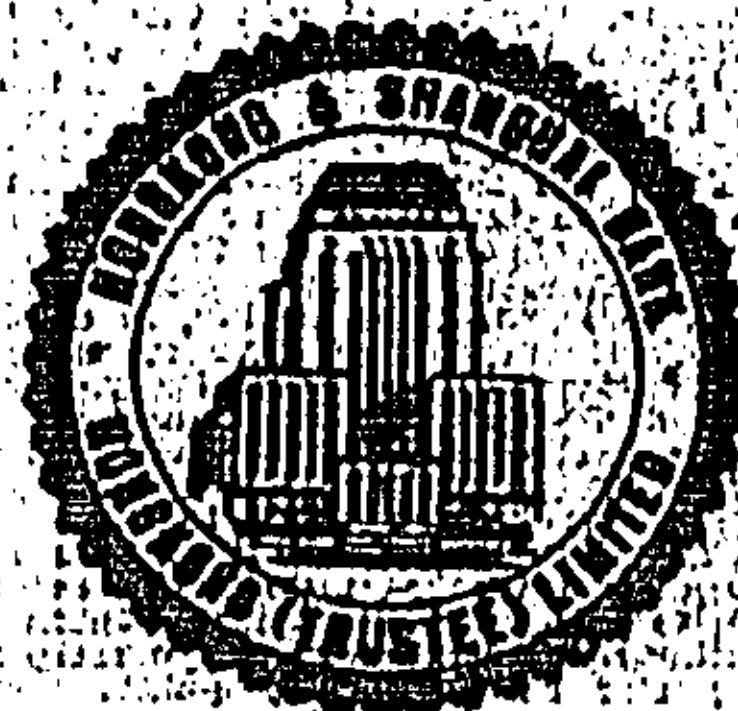
All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 23rd December, 1952, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

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Hongkong, 18th December, 1952.



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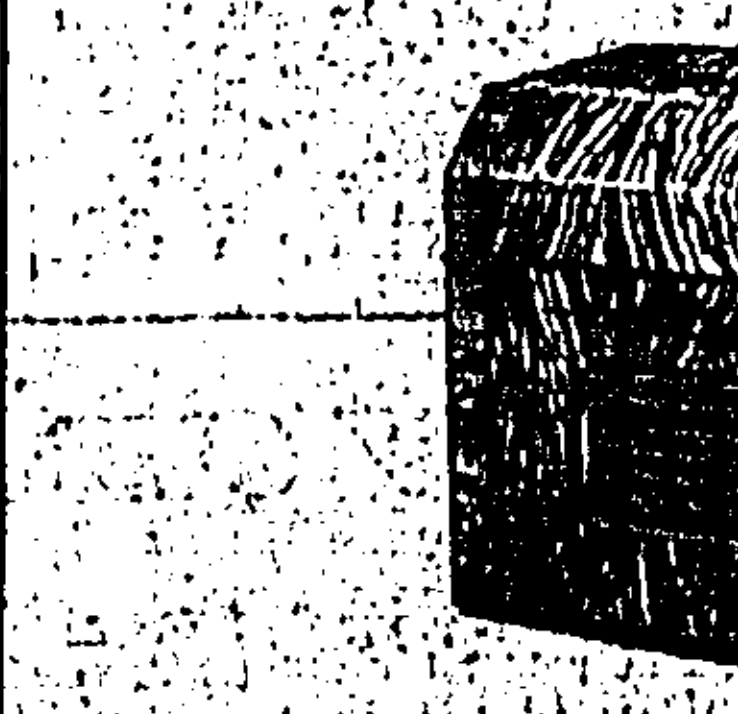
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BIRTHS

BLAAUW—To Andrin, wife of A.C.W. Blaauw, on December 19, 1952, at Queen Mary Hospital a brother for the twins, Jan Gerard Willemson.

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